

Ayatollah men close in on dismissed Bani-Sadr

From Tony Allaway, Tehran, June 11

Iran's all-powerful Muslim fundamentalists today closed in on President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr.

On a day of high tension after last night's abrupt dismissal of Mr Bani-Sadr as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, his political opponents demanded his resignation from the presidency accusing him of incompetence.

Angry crowds gathered round the President's office in central Tehran and shouted for his trial and execution. Elsewhere large groups cursed his name and fought with small pockets of his supporters.

The diminutive, 48-year-old President fled back to Tehran in disgrace this morning from Kermanshah, where he had completed his last tour of the war front.

Outside a large crowd of Bani-Sadr's followers of the Party of God, demanded that he should be prevented from leaving the country. Carrying crude pictures depicting him as the former Shah they shouted: "Until the death of the second Shah the revolution will continue."

Ayatollah Khomeini summoned the military junta staffs commanders for a one-hour meeting, during which he ordered them to assume the responsibilities of the Commander-in-Chief until a successor was appointed.

As the commanders emerged from the meeting, Colonel Faruqi, the gendarmes chief, raised his fists to the large crowds who had gathered outside and shouted: "Say the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces is Khomeini, Khomeini!"

The state radio broadcast a statement by the influential Militant Clergy Society which said: "The President's offences became clearer day by day and

unfortunately he paid no attention to the advice and warnings of [Ayatollah Khomeini] and society. . . . As a whole his competence had completely deserted him."

Crowds in the streets shouted "Death to Bani-Sadr" and "Iran's General Pinochet must be put on trial". The President has been accused in the past of plotting a Chile-style takeover in Iran.

Revolutionary Guards fired in the air and used tear gas to break up fights between opponents and supporters of the President. Several arrests were made and there were reports of at least one death in the fighting.

One report spoke of scuffles at the parliament as fundamentalists attempted to attack Mr Mehdi Bazarpan, the former Prime Minister, and other politically moderate parliamentarians. Shops in the city centre closed down as the skirmishes continued.

The radio said demonstrations were held throughout the country in support of Ayatollah Khomeini's decision to dismiss the President as Commander-in-Chief.

Political observers said he appeared to have little alternative but to resign.

A farewell statement he issued to the armed forces as Commander-in-Chief gave no hint of his intentions, although its tone seemed to indicate that he would cling on to the last trappings of power, for the time being at least.

"I deem it necessary to express my thanks and appreciation to you who have sincerely and devotedly been protecting the country and fighting the aggressor enemy," the President said.

"You yourselves have witnessed that I have done all that was in my power. . . . I hope this will be accepted by God and the grateful people of Iran."

Considering the sensitive circumstances of the country you are expected to continue your honourable struggle against the aggressor enemy with greater severity. . . . and glorify the history of the Islamic Republic."

But the President's hopes of public gratitude for his efforts at the war front, appeared highly optimistic. Signs have already appeared of an organized campaign to blame him for the presence of Iraqi soldiers on Iranian soil.

Leading article, page 15

Up to 3,000 feared dead in Iran earthquake

Tehran, June 11.—Between 1,500 and 3,000 people were killed when an earthquake devastated a large area of Iran's Kerman Province, today, Mr Mohammad Ali Rajai, the Prime Minister, said.

Mr Rajai described the earthquake as a national disaster. State television interrupted its broadcasts to give the Prime Minister's first estimate of the death toll in the south-eastern province.

More than 1,500 severely injured people were taken to hospitals while rescue teams searched for survivors buried under tons of dirt and rubble. The rescue teams were aided by troops, Revolutionary Guards and medical teams.

Worst hit was the town of Golbagh, which has 10,000 inhabitants and its surrounding villages, Mr Abolhasan Savah, the Governor of Kerman, said. He added that more than 1,000 people were feared to be buried under the rubble of their homes.

The earthquake registered 6.3 on the open-ended Richter scale, according to the Tehran Geophysical Institute.

The disaster area was 50 miles south-east of the provincial capital of Kerman, but the epicentre of the quake was located in the salt desert of Loo.

The Governor said two-thirds of the area, inhabited by 40,000 people, was destroyed.

In the village of Gol Bagh, 43 miles south-east of Kerman, up to 500 people were injured, according to first reports.

The state radio said the earthquake left a vast trail of destruction. Helicopters were sent to the area to evacuate the injured and transfer them to hospitals.

Today's earthquake appeared to have been the worst to hit Iran since the 1926 tremors measuring about 7.6 on the Richter scale which killed 15,000 people in September, 1978.—Reuters and AP.

Babrak Karmal resigns post

President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan has resigned the premiership. The new Prime Minister is Sultan Ali Khatmand. Since the Russian invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, Mr Karmal has held the three top posts in the country—president, premier and general-secretary of the ruling People's Democratic Unity Party.

Ambulance strike

A further 300 ambulancemen staged an all-out one-day strike in Scotland while union leaders tried to prevent a crisis in the London ambulance service on Monday.

Windscale doubts

A report raises fresh doubts about health risks from the discharge of plutonium into the sea from the nuclear reprocessing plant at Windscale.

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Hail and farewell: Mr Jenkins and his wife boarding the Warrington train at Euston last night.

In great shape for the Warrington weigh-in

By David Wood

It was, in effect, the first by-election special train from Euston to Warrington, although the destination board officially said Blackpool. Mr. Jenkins was on his way to the constituency where he was later officially adopted as the first parliamentary candidate fielded by the Social Democratic Party. He had a carefully constructed speech ready to hand.

The return to active politics and the hustings after four bureaucratic years as President of the Brussels Commission proves to have been some sort of magic elixir.

He could almost claim, like Muhammad Ali, that he fought like a butterfly and stung like a bee. His wife and children, like Lord Harris of Greenwich, who travelled north with him, had every reason to think that their man could not have done in better shape to the Warrington weigh-in.

Mr Jenkins and the other joint leaders of the SDP have no illusions. They know that Warrington will be hard to capture from Labour.

But the new party had to fight to prove the seriousness of its challenge to the Labour and Conservative parties, and Mr Jenkins took no persuading that the honour of appearing as the first standard-bearer properly fell to him.

He wooed the Liberals without compromising the private talks he is to have locally during this visit in the hope of their support for his candidature.

He said: "Our sights as a party are very high. We want to show a way out from the old debilitating politics of outdated dogmatism, remote from the thoughts of ordinary people."

Labour doubts on Bill to stop IRA election tactic

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Government's Bill to prevent convicted terrorists being elected to the Commons for Northern Ireland constituencies will be published today.

The Representation of the People Bill is expected to provide that a convicted criminal, serving a jail sentence of a year or more, will be disqualified from being a candidate in a parliamentary election. The second reading will be on Monday.

The Opposition believes that the Government is making a mistake. It is repeating discussions held over several weeks, the Labour frontbench, which is under pressure from the left to give less support to the Government's Irish policy, has tried to persuade ministers that the wiser course would be to allow convicted persons to be candidates; but to legislate so that they would be disqualified from taking their seats if elected.

A majority of the Shadow Cabinet thinks it constitutionally wrong to deny voters the right to choose whom they

please; but proper for Parliament to decide whom it should admit.

Other Labour frontbenchers raise other objections. They fear that to pass any amending legislation amounts to changing the rules in the middle of the game, in a way that may be exploited by the Provisional IRA.

Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow Home Secretary, said last night that in the Opposition's view the campaign against terrorism would not be assisted by the Bill, and that Labour MPs would be recommended to oppose it.

But at the weekly meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party, Mr James Dunn, MP for Liverpool, Kirkdale, said he would not vote against it. Mr James Wellbeloved, MP for Erith and Crayford, said that there would be a division in the party.

Ministers are hoping that when the Shadow Cabinet meets next week to discuss tactics, it may decide to allow the party a free vote, and so minimize the division.

Government inquiry, back page

Diamond find may be half world output

By Michael Prest, Commodities Correspondent

Order and stability in the world diamond market, so long controlled by the South African producer De Beers, is threatened by the disclosure that a diamond field in Australia could increase world output by half. De Beers has been struggling to prevent gemstone prices from falling too far in the recession.

The field, called Smoke Creek, is in a remote part of Western Australia, some 2,200 kilometres north of Perth. While its existence has been known for some time, it is now thought capable of producing up to 25 million carats a year, in addition to current world production of 50 million.

But its crucial significance is that 10 per cent of these stones would be of gem quality. About 80 per cent of world diamond output is of industrial quality which accounts for just 20 per cent of revenue. Gemstones make the profits and set prices, so a sudden addition of 10 per cent to existing supply could seriously upset the market.

By the same token, the market for industrial diamonds, which has held up better in the recession than the gem market, could be undermined.

Smoke Creek yields an average of five carats for each tonne of earth moved, compared with 0.5 carats in South Africa. This also poses a threat to the synthetic diamond industry, which has benefited from the strong demand for industrial stones.

Smoke Creek is part of a huge alluvial deposit scattered across the remote Kimberley mountains. It is under development by the Ashton Joint Venture, an agreement between Australian mining companies, the biggest of which, Constar Resources Australia (CRA), is controlled by Rio Tinto-Zinc, the huge British mining house.

At present the field could earn the partners US\$336m (£173m) a year. But much will depend on the impact made on the world market by the very existence of so big a reserve. Other deposits are known to exist in the area as well.

De Beers, which for half a century has dominated the diamond market through the De Beers Consolidated Mines (CSO), is therefore anxious to reach agreement with the joint venture to sell its output. A De Beers spokesman said yesterday that the company is very interested.

Even if De Beers does reach agreement on long-term sales contracts, which give the joint venture the benefit of a reliable income, in depressed times such as these the cost of financing the extra stocks withheld from the market could rise considerably.

Benn out of action for some time

By Dr Tony Smith, Medical Correspondent

Mr Wedgwood Benn is suffering from Guillain-Barré syndrome, an acute polyneuritis, inflammation of the nerves, affecting his legs, Charing Cross Hospital, London, said yesterday. It is likely to keep him out of action for several weeks.

Guillain-Barré syndrome is a fatal polyneuritis that causes muscular weakness and, in severe cases, widespread paralysis. The damage to the nerves is, however, only transient. Most patients with the disease return to normal health, but recovery may take several months.

In contrast to multiple sclerosis, once recovery is complete it is permanent.

The syndrome is named after two French neurologists, Georges Guillain and Jean Alexandre Barré, but it was described earlier by the nineteenth-century physician, Jean Baptiste Landry.

Despite its long history the syndrome remains largely unexplained. It usually begins a week or two after a minor virus infection such as a cough or cold, but in 1976 several hundred American developed Guillain-Barré syndrome after vaccination against influenza with the swine-flu vaccine.

The first symptom, more often than not, is weakness of the muscles of the feet and legs, most noticeable when climbing stairs or walking. Typically, the weakness spreads to the upper legs, trunk and arms over the next few days.

In severe cases, the muscles of speech, swallowing, and respiration may be affected. In most cases the sensory nerves are also affected, causing numbness, tingling and sometimes pain in the arms and legs.

Usually the weakness worsens for the first seven days of the illness; it then remains constant for several weeks before the gradual onset of a spontaneous recovery of strength.

The severity of the muscular weakness is variable, ranging from loss of some power in only a few muscle groups to total paralysis requiring treatment on an artificial respirator, when there is a risk of death.

No specific treatment can be prescribed to hasten recovery, but physiotherapy will be given to help the muscles regain their strength. Full recovery may be delayed beyond a year in the most severe cases; and most patients require prolonged convalescence before returning to their previous occupation.

"Stop squabbling", back page

UK project for space television

By David Hewson

The prospect of television programmes beamed from space to all parts of Britain has orders of seven satellites in the air, and the announcement of a £100m project to launch a United Kingdom broadcast satellite network.

British Aerospace and N. M. Rothschild & Sons, merchant bankers, have jointly launched a new company, Satellite Broadcasting, to build, launch and operate two satellites, transmitting over the nation.

The company has applied to the Home Office for permission to launch the satellites, probably on the European rocket Ariane, or on the Space Shuttle in 1985 or 1986.

The broadcasts could be received by anyone paying around £200 for a rooftop aerial or connected to a suitable cable television scheme.

But the Home Office has yet to make up its mind about who would be allowed to use the system. Earlier this year it said it was tentatively willing to consider allowing two satellite channels to operate from the mid-1980s.

The most conservative course open to the Government is to allow the two channels to go to BBC or ITV for the broadcast of its present services.

It could swing to the other extreme, however, and offer the two channels to new commercial networks, but only by incurring the wrath of the existing commercial channels which are now under heavy financial pressure.

Satellite broadcasting would not be involved in supplying any of the programmes transmitted by the company, but would lease time on the system at a rental expected to be around £14m a year at present costs.

Details of how the project will be financed are not yet clear. The contract for three satellites, two to be launched and one to remain on the ground on standby, would be worth between £65m and £70m, British Aerospace and N. M. Rothschild & Sons, equally as important, give the

company a chance to show its worth in a rapidly expanding market.

Its Stevenage factory already has orders for seven satellites at the moment, and expects to announce more in the next month. The United Kingdom television models would be L-Sats, a large satellite developed by the European Space Agency which BAE believes has a much more commercial future than the smaller counterparts.

The L-Sat version would carry considerable extra capacity which could be put to business use if the Government allowed, or rented to Irish or Spanish television stations for positioning of the satellites would enable them to broadcast equally well to the Republic of Ireland and Spain.

The BAE/Rothschild venture represents the most serious move into the promised broadcasting revolution so far, but it still faces serious obstacles.

The timing of the scheme means that its planning will be interrupted by a general election which could introduce a government committed to different ideas about what the satellites should carry from those which the present Cabinet will eventually hold.

The ITV companies, which have been hit drastically by soaring costs and the extra burden of financing the new Channel 4, are not yet clear on whether they would oppose any new commercial service which would break their monopoly on television advertising.

There is also some doubt over whether the public would be sufficiently interested in satellite channels to buy the extra equipment needed to receive it.

The new company is putting together a financing package which could include outside investors, according to a spokesman. It is also discussing its application with the Home Office, but it is clear that it will never get off the ground until firm buyers are found for the broadcasting time it offers.

TV's space race, page 19

Begin claims Israelis wrecked secret base

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, June 11

Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, claimed tonight that Sunday's Israeli air attack against Iraq's nuclear reactor had destroyed the Iraqi nuclear base, and he repeated an earlier threat that if they did so, Israel would destroy it again.

Speaking later at an election rally in Tel Aviv suburb of Peta Tikvah, Mr Begin attempted to exploit divisions in the American Administration about the decision to hold up the delivery to Israel of four F16 fighter aircraft.

Beirut: Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, called today for the destruction of the Israeli nuclear centre in Dimona in retaliation for Israel's attack on Iraq's nuclear installation. (Reuters reports).

In a speech in Tripoli quoted by the Libyan news agency Jena, he said that "the Israelis were the first to set this precedent and the destruction of the Israeli nuclear reactor has become legitimate."

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US concern at threat to Poland

From David Cross, Washington, June 11

The United States has told the Soviet Union that it is deeply concerned about its latest attack on Poland towards greater democracy.

A State Department spokesman said today that Washington felt the threatening tone of the recent letter from the Soviet Communist Party to the Polish party hierarchy were, in Washington's view, an internal matter and should be treated as such by Moscow.

Asked about the state of readiness of Soviet troops in and around Poland, the spokesman said they were in a fairly high state of readiness but there was no new information to confirm rumours last week that they might be preparing for another round of military exercises to intimidate the Poles.

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Zara is royal baby's name

Princess Anne's daughter is to be called Zara. Anne, Elizabeth, Kensington Palace announced last night. Zara is a Greek biblical name and means "bright as the dawn".

A Palace spokesman said: "Princess Anne and Captain Phillips just liked the name. They do not know anyone called Zara."

Miss Zara Phillips, as she will be known, is the Queen's second grandchild and sixth in line to the throne. No date has been fixed for the christening.

A woman's place is in the House

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

The battle of the sexes was well and truly joined in the Commons yesterday with Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody launching a savage attack from the Labour front bench and accusing the Government of being the root of every evil that has ever befallen womankind since the Garden of Eden.

To many MPs this sounded a bit rough on the female of the species, for alone the Government, since it was only a few moments since Mrs Margaret Thatcher had just finished thumping Mr Michael Foot into the ground over unilateral disarmament and the Civil Service dispute.

Mrs Dunwoody, the member for Croydon, however, is a formidable woman and not the sort to be treated lightly in a dark alley on a dark night. She waded into the cause with gusto, so over-egging the cake that at one point she was claiming that there was so much inequality about that women, at least as far as the House of Commons was concerned, were not even being allowed to be mediocre because there were so few of them in the place.

So it was all rather easy for Mrs Sally Oppenheim, who always looks as though she is equal to anything, replying from the Tory front bench. Looking hard at Mr Denis Skinner, who had the temerity to interrupt her from a sedentary position, Mrs Oppenheim told him that from a woman's point of view there was no greater virtue in being a revolutionary than in being a conservative.

Look at Robespierre, Karl Marx, Rousseau and Lenin. They had all gone off leaving their wives slaving over hot stoves. Like most men, they did not expect their wives to bring comforts and they were only too glad to have the dinner on the table when they came home from their revolutionary activities.

Mrs Oppenheim had discovered that in a government of men, women were the hypothetical male. The mind boggled at the thought of a meeting between him and the statutory female. What might be the offspring of such a union, pondered Mrs Oppenheim.

Anyway, as the debate developed, it seemed that about the most unequal place as far as women were concerned, was the House of Commons. Dame Judith Hart pointed out that it was not recently that the Sergeant-at-Arms had stopped sitting women "in."

Moreover, it was only since the days of Barbara Castle that women were allowed out into fields other than pensions, education and social welfare. Even worse, Mr John Rixburgh, who joined in the debate on the grounds that his mother and great aunt had formerly been MPs, reminded the House that there were certain doors through which women members were not supposed to pass.

There were doors marked "members" and doors marked "lady members" and were beside any woman MP who failed to notice the difference. However, Mr Rixburgh ended on a more hopeful note. As Eva had pointed out to Adam in the Garden of Eden, we were in a period of transition. So perhaps, as Sir Geoffrey Howe is fond of saying, the House's things are at last bottoming out.

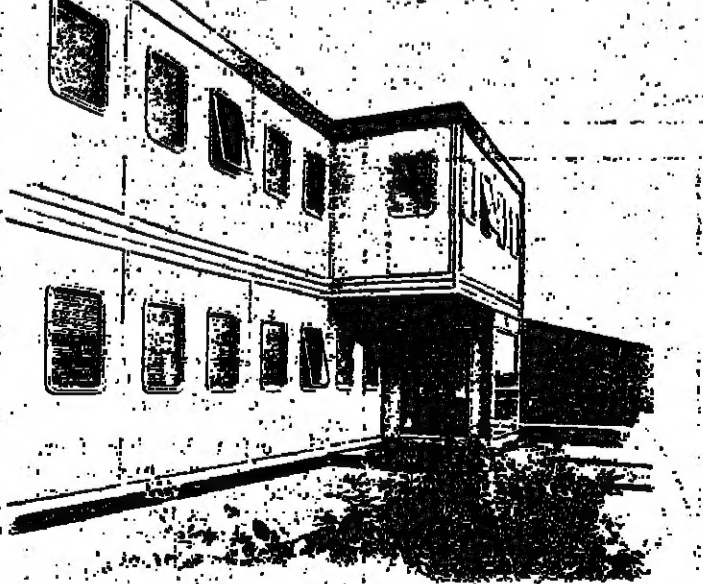
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Ministry suspends 900 staff in benefits offices

By Donald MacIntyre and Pat Healy

The Government line against the Civil Service unions hardened further yesterday when the Department of Employment issued suspension notices to more than 900 staff in Scottish unemployment benefits offices.

The move came shortly before the Prime Minister infuriated union leaders by telling the Commons that with incremental increases and backdating to April the offer to Civil Servants worked out at "11 per cent over and above last year".

The staff formally given suspension notices in Scotland had been refusing to make out benefit payments by hand under emergency procedures established because of the strike by computer staff at Livingston, near Edinburgh, and Reading.

The department reported that seven offices were closed and a further 41 unable to provide adequate service. Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, said in a statement: "We cannot tolerate a situation in which staff refuse to carry out their duties appropriate to their grades under the emergency procedures while continuing to receive full pay."

About 100,000 unemployed have been unable to get their national insurance benefits this week because of the intensification of the strike, which has stopped three benefits.

Another 350,000 mothers claiming child benefit will not receive their other books in two weeks' time, and 125,000 people due to retire in the next four months will not receive pensions.

International and domestic flights are likely to face serious disruption today as air traffic control staff at Heathrow and the West Drayton air traffic control centres reenter the dispute.

Top jobs are still going to Oxbridge

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Oxbridge candidates last year again accounted for three-fifths of the successful external entrants to the administration of the Civil Service, the entry point for "high-fliers" destined for rapid promotion to the highest echelons within Whitehall. Yet only 5 per cent of the graduates come from those two universities.

One in five of a total of 497 applicants from Oxbridge won administration trainee places, compared with one in 33 of a total of nearly 2,000 applicants from other universities and polytechnics.

Former pupils of independent and direct grant schools again accounted for half of all successful applicants, although they make up only 7 per cent of all pupils. Only 10 applicants from those schools won places, compared with one in 20 of applicants from maintained schools.

The highest success rate (22 per cent) was for those who had been to a direct grant or independent school, followed by Oxbridge, then a combination of maintained schools and Oxbridge (11 per cent), direct grant and non-Oxbridge (4 per cent), maintained and non-Oxbridge (3 per cent), and independent school and non-Oxbridge (2 per cent).

Of 146 successful candidates, only 18 had degrees in science and technology, 36 had degrees in the social sciences, and 90 had arts degrees.

After several years of falling short of its target, the Civil Service has begun to attract the calibre and quantity of qualified applicants it needs (Peter Hennessy writes).

Figures published by the Civil Service Commission today show that last year government departments had 30 vacancies for senior accountants and accountants. Eighteen people were appointed and a further 12 recommended for appointment from 351 applicants.

Reflecting the same trend, the Exchequer and Audit Department, which provides the Commons Public Accounts Committee with ammunition, had 109 vacancies for government auditors last year and filled them all.

Civil Service Commission, Annual Report 1980 (Civil Service Commission, Alton, Basingstoke, Hampshire).

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I will not crawl, dropped MP says

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

In a bitter attack on the Labour Party's new reselection process, Mr Eric Ogden, MP for Liverpool, West Derby, who was rejected by his constituency party last Sunday, told fellow MPs in the Parliamentary Labour Party last night: "There was a coup. The wound was deep, but not fatal."

He said he had been told that if he had kept his head down and not upset the opposition, he had not had a mind of his own, then he might still be the prospective parliamentary candidate for West Derby.

"If that be true," he said, "the party locally or nationally no longer deserves support."

"I will do much to remain a member of Parliament but the only crawling I ever did in my working life was in a two-foot seam of coal at Bradford colliery, and I have no intention of crawling to any man on the surface."

Mr Ogden, who has represented the constituency for 17 years, said he could confirm that those who stood and fought their ground could get "clubbed". "I can confirm that there is a 'removal list' and I believe it extends right through the Parliamentary Labour Party and all the way up to, and including, Michael Foot," he said. "It did not exclude some other members of the national executive."

He had begun his speech cheerfully by saying that reports of his political demise in West Derby were at best exaggerated, at worst premature. "Those who succeeded can be expected to make my political life in the constituency party more and more difficult, and they are the ones who would be most pleased to drive me out of the constituency or the Labour Party," he said.

"Three of the nominees for West Derby lost their seats in last elections, and moved on to safe pastures. The selected prospective candidate is better at winning a selection conference than he is at winning elections."

Carpet-bagging may be popular and temporarily profitable but it is not my way. The constituency still provides means by which those who have been selected, or re-elected, can still be constitutionally de-selected."

On Sunday he was rejected in favour of Mr Robert Wareing, aged 50, a polytechnic lecturer who is a supporter of Mr Wedgwood Benn, and was twice defeated by the Liberals at Liverpool, Edge Hill.

Solicitors held under Terrorism Act after Belfast jailbreak

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Five men, including two solicitors and a trainee solicitor, were being questioned by Royal Ulster Constabulary detectives last night after the escape by eight suspected IRA prisoners from the Crumlin Road jail, in Belfast. The five were arrested in the jail.

They were being held under section 12 of the Prevention of Terrorism Act at the Castlebragh detention centre, in the city.

As an intense search for the wanted men continued across Ulster, with the greatest security checks on the border routes, the RUC refused to name the men being held. They said they never gave the names of people being questioned.

However, one of the men was named in the House of Commons. He is Mr Oliver Kelly, aged 34, who has represented several of the men in the M60 machine-gun, murder case, which has been going on for five weeks at the court in the Crumlin Road.

Mr Kelly is a graduate of Queen's University, Belfast, and has been a practising solicitor in the city for 10 years, specializing in criminal law.

Mr Ciaran Steele, a colleague in his practice, who is a trainee solicitor in his early twenties and also a graduate of Queen's University, is another of the men being held.

The other man named is Mr Joseph Rice, a newly qualified solicitor, who also works with a Belfast solicitors' firm and was representing some of the escaped men.

The Provisional IRA say the men are in the safety of the Belfast brigade. Security forces do not think the have left the city. Meanwhile the police and Army continue their manhunt with road blocks in parts of Belfast and on the main routes across the border into the Irish Republic. The Gardaí have been alerted and a close watch is being kept on harbours and airports.

The police were particularly active yesterday in the republic, where they were seen to have performed well. Belfast, with many side roads closed as they stopped traffic. Taxi drivers protested when road blocks went up, but to many it was clear that the eight men were quickly becoming folk heroes.

WANTED

These men, who were in custody charged with the murder of a police officer, escaped from Crumlin Road Jail on the afternoon Wednesday 11th June 1981.



Information will be treated in absolute confidence.

WANTED

One of the 20,000 "wanted" posters being distributed in Northern Ireland.

Motorists at checkpoints were given one of the 20,000 wanted posters being distributed. The posters bear pictures of seven of the eight men police are hunting. Mr Michael Ryan, the eighth man, is not on the poster for legal reasons.

The Provisional IRA responded to the posters by circulating thousands of their own in west Belfast last night, in exactly the same size and paper but with pictures of RUC policemen above the names of the wanted men.

Yesterday officials of the Northern Ireland Office remained unforthcoming about the escape, despite a graphic description given by IRA sources in the city. They claimed that at least 10 prison officers, with the solicitors, were held in a room by the armed prisoners while some of them disguised themselves with uniforms taken from the officers.

They said a riot squad of up to 20 prison officers had been held at bay and that the men split into two groups before escaping through the main gates.

While Belfast legal circles were both astonished and amused at what they say is the unprecedented action of arresting legal representatives, sources close to the IRA said there was no significance in the particular day chosen for the break-out.

The escape had not been planned to coincide with the general election in the Republic, nor had it been prepared suddenly when the men realized last Friday that they would be sentenced tomorrow.

The Pope is to be sent a copy of a "charter of rights" drawn up by the widows of five members of the security forces murdered in Ulster by the IRA.

Calling themselves "Widows' Mite", the women intend to oppose IRA propaganda and to send a supplementary petition to the House of Commons and church leaders all over the world.

Northern Ireland Office job shuffle

Sir Kenneth Stowe, Permanent Under-Secretary at the Northern Ireland Office since 1979, is to become Permanent Secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security in July.

His replacement in the Northern Ireland Office will be Mr Philip Woodfield, aged 57, who has been in the office since 1979. Mr Woodfield is a Northern Ireland Civil Service as deputy to the Permanent Secretary of the Northern Ireland Office.



Mr Haughey (left) and Dr Fitz,erald voting yesterday.

High turnout as Irish electors defy rain

From Christopher Thomas, Dublin

The Irish Republic's 2,250,000 voters went to the polls in driving rain yesterday to elect the twenty-second Dail. The turnout was high, possibly well over 70 per cent.

Last-minute opinion polls put Fianna Fail and the combined forces of Fine Gael and the Labour Party virtually neck and neck. The nine D-block candidates, four of them on hunger strike, are not expected to have performed well.

The key issues in the campaign were jobs and prices, with Northern Ireland and the Maze crisis low on the electorate's list of priorities. Whoever runs the next Parliament, which reassembles on June 30, will face a grave economic crisis, with a supplementary budget later in the year to raise more taxes looks certain.

It is the first time Mr Charles Haughey, the Prime Minister, and Dr Garret FitzGerald have faced the electorate as party leaders. Mr

Haughey, of Fianna Fail, has said throughout the campaign that he was seeking a personal mandate to continue to try to solve the Northern Ireland question.

Dr FitzGerald, of Fine Gael, concentrated almost entirely on economic issues making only one speech about Ulster.

Mr Haughey has many opponents within his party and it is clear that his future as leader will be in serious danger. The hardline republican wing is bitterly disappointed that he has not been more critical of the British Government over the Maze crisis.

Counting begins today in the 41 constituencies, but the final result is not expected until tomorrow. The new Dail will have 166 candidates, 13 more than at the time of the last general election, in 1977, as a result of boundary changes that take account of the increased population.

Ministers to study report on battered baby's death

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Ministers at the Department of Health and Social Security asked yesterday for copies of the independent inquiry report on the death of Maria Melmed, the 11-month-old baby who died in 1978 after being severely battered by her father.

They are understood to be concerned at the communications failures identified.

The report, believed to be the twentieth in 10 years on the death of a battered child, also criticized the failings of the health services in the early stages of the child's short life. That, too, was worrying ministers.

The department is preparing a review of the lessons to be learned from the various inquiries on child deaths. It is expected to be published this year. Sir George, the old Secretary of State for Social Services, has also promised a new practical manual for field workers on handling cases of child abuse.

Sir George said yesterday that his department was going through a previous report on child deaths "with a fine-tooth comb" to look for common factors.

Local health authorities in south-east London, where Maria was born and died, are responding rapidly to the report. The local family practitioner committee, which would be responsible for implementing any advice to doctors following the report, are to consider the implications on July 7.

The committee have already circulated guidance to doctors on what to do when they suspect child abuse, including the advice that they should "immediately contact the local paediatrician."

The report on Maria's death criticized her family doctor for not passing on his suspicions that she might be a battered child, for failing to respond immediately to a health visitor's call when she found the baby bruised, and for not attending a case conference on Maria on the grounds that it was a "waste of time."

The committee will consider whether it is practicable to have family doctors attend all case conferences on child abuse on one of their patients. Their view is that doctors do not attend because of pressures on their time, rather than through any disbelief in the value of such conferences.

Meanwhile a report on a proposal to put more social workers into child abuse cases is being prepared by Southwark social services department. If its views are accepted, however, support for other groups, including the elderly, would have to be reduced.

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Shore attacks SDP as Tory auxiliaries

By Our Political Staff

Mr Peter Shore, the shadow Chancellor, last night, voiced the growing Labour fear that the emergence of the Social Democratic Party will prevent the return of a future Labour government.

In a bitter attack on the new party, Mr Shore said: "Whether they intend it or not, the Social Democrats are a major obstacle to the return of a Labour Government. They are in reality the auxiliaries of the worst government we have had this century."

Mr Shore, who was opposing a motion at the Cambridge Union favouring the realignment of British politics, said that the Prime Minister's only hope was that the anti-Tory tide would flow not to the candidates of the Opposition, who alone could form an alternative government, but to the Social Democrats.

"This is the political reality of their intervention. There is not the slightest possibility of their being able to form an alternative government themselves—without or without Mr Steel's Liberal circus."

Reflecting an opinion that is rapidly gaining credence among Labour MPs, Mr Shore continued: "There is the possibility that they will sufficiently divide the Labour vote until this time that they will be able to enjoy yet another term of office and inflict still more grievous damage on this country."

Mr Shore said the SDP and Liberal espousal of proportional representation reflected the reality of their prospects and their own self-interest. "They know very well they have no chance of forming a majority, said if they did, their espousal of proportional representation, would be the first casualty."

Speaking in favour of the motion, Lord Kennet, the former Labour peer, said he was a member of the SDP and the realignment of British politics had already begun with the 50,000 people who had joined the party in its first few weeks.

"The Labour Party, from which most of us came is no longer a place for democrats," he said.

Steel tells Democrats to choose a leader

By Our Political Staff

Mr David Steel told the Social Democrats last night to make up their minds and choose a leader.

The Liberal Party leader said that he found the collective leadership of the SDP to be a slow, cumbersome and rather frustrating mechanism. The party's leadership duties are shared by Mrs Shirley Williams, Mr Roy Jenkins, Dr David Owen, MP, and Mr William Rogers, MP.

Interviewed on the BBC 2 programme, *The Pursuit of Power*, Mr Steel, disclosed that he had privately told the Social Democrats that they should choose a leader.

He said that he found the collective leadership of the SDP to be a slow, cumbersome and rather frustrating mechanism. The party's leadership duties are shared by Mrs Shirley Williams, Mr Roy Jenkins, Dr David Owen, MP, and Mr William Rogers, MP.

He emphasized, however, that the question of whom the SDP chose as leader was a matter for them.

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Esso offers pay for more mph

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Esso Petroleum offering its tank drivers pay rises of £13 a week to drive 10% faster on the motorways. The company wants delivery men to average 36 miles an hour.

The offer is part of a productivity scheme on which about 1,000 drivers are to vote later this month at depot meetings or by secret ballot. If accepted it will raise earnings to about £130 a week.

The drivers, who belong to the Transport and General Workers Union, are being asked to reduce journey times so that more deliveries can be made in normal working time. At present drivers on some motorway routes average only 20 mph for a trip.

Faster journey times would cut overtime in the company's tanker operation by up to 5 per cent. Other productivity concessions sought by Esso are designed to make the whole scheme self-financing. One controversial aspect is the phasing out of 10 per cent of jobs among drivers and petrol depot workers. As many as 180 jobs could go.

Esso's offer of £13 a week more is on basic rates of £105 for the drivers, whose actual earnings with overtime and shift premiums would rise from about £130 to £170-£180.

The company is also talking to the unions on other productivity schemes.

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Warning of naval crisis

From Our Correspondent, Portsmouth

Mr Keith Speed, the former Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Navy, said yesterday that the controversy over defence could lead to the Government's gravest crisis yet.

Speaking at Portsmouth, he said he believed the Government would hold a two-day debate on defence before the summer recess.

He added: "Feelings are running high in the party. Many MPs on the Conservative benches are very concerned about downgrading our maritime capability and running down the Royal Navy."

I think it is quite possible, depending on what the Defence Ministers say in the debate, that a number of my colleagues and myself could vote against Mr Nott if we do not like his statement."

"I think, in terms of backbenchers defying the front bench, it could turn out to be the Government's biggest crisis."

Mr Speed said that the dockyards might face closure. He added that the Government would close Portsmouth dockyard despite its investment of millions of pounds aimed at enabling the yard to support nuclear warheads.

Work started last year on a £75m fleet maintenance base at Portsmouth dockyard.

No way to treat Navy, page 14

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TOP TOWER OPENED BY THE QUEEN

The Queen opened Britain's tallest office building yesterday to the sound of fire alarms. As she finished her opening speech at the 600ft National Westminster Tower, in the City of London, the building's fire alarms were set off by the heat from the television lamps.

The tower, in Old Broad Street, cost £100m to build and houses the banking group's growing international section.

The Queen unveiled a plaque and said: "The growth and success of your international operations command worldwide respect, and the tower can only be enhanced now they are accommodated in such a fine headquarters."

After visiting the mail and translation department on the fourth floor, the Queen took the lift to the roof to be shown the panoramic view of London and the surrounding countryside.

Architects for the development were Richard Seifert and Partners and the main contractor was the John Mowlem Group. Work on the tower began in 1971 and it was occupied last year. About 2,500 staff will be housed there.

He told them the people of London were "sick and tired" of violence and terror in the streets after matches. Drunken louts behaved like "primal savages."

WPC Shepherd waded into the mob, near King's Cross station, in north London, when she saw them hitting a man on the ground with a tennis racket.

She rescued the man, grabbed the racket, chased the fleeing fans and helped to arrest two of them.

Judge Stable told the 57-418 eight-stone constable: "At all times you were heavily outnumbered but you did not bestir or delay for a second."

Science report is on page 4

Overseas selling prices
Belgium 30.75, Britain 30.75, Canada 30.75, France 30.75, Germany 30.75, Italy 30.75, Japan 30.75, Netherlands 30.75, Portugal 30.75, Spain 30.75, Sweden 30.75, Switzerland 30.75, Taiwan 30.75, Thailand 30.75, USA 30.75, West Germany 30.75, Yugoslavia 30.75.

Courageous woman PC routed mob

A judge yesterday praised a police woman's "outstanding courage" in routing a mob of 30 drunken football fans who were attacking an injured man.

Judge Owen Stable called Woman Police Constable Joanne Shepherd, aged 24, to the Central Criminal Court for the commendation. Last week she jailed and fined three Sheffield Wednesday supporters involved in an incident, which included an attack on two off-duty police men.

He told them the people of London were "sick and tired" of violence and terror in the streets after matches. Drunken louts behaved like "primal savages."

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Ambulancemen warned against unofficial walkout

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Reporter

Union leaders yesterday tried again to prevent a crisis in the London ambulance service on Monday, as a further 300 ambulancemen went on an all-out one-day strike in two regions of Scotland.

Mr Alan Fisher, general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, sent a circular to London ambulance branches emphasizing that the call by senior shop stewards for all-out action on Monday, including a ban on emergency calls, did not have the approval of the union's executive.

The only hope of averting a widening of the dispute involving the country's 17,000 ambulancemen appeared last night to rest with the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, which held exploratory talks with area health authority representatives.

Acas was also in touch by telephone with union officials and was hoping to arrange further early talks with the union side to find whether there might be any basis for conciliation.

Police yesterday stepped in to provide emergency cover throughout Lancashire and the Forth Valley areas after 280 ambulancemen walked out on a 24-hour all-out strike.

Pennine rail link to close

From Our Correspondent, Sheffield

The Woodhead freight line, a trans-Pennine rail route, is to close despite the findings of a public inquiry organized by the National Union of Railway men, British Rail announced yesterday.

The inquiry into the future of the line, between Sheffield and Manchester, was held in Sheffield last month, and the findings were that BR should keep the line open at least until a decision is made on electrification.

BR in Sheffield said that it was not a party to the inquiry. "We plan to close the route from the beginning of next month and we see no reason for that to change."

BR claim the route is losing money and there are better routes across the Pennines, but opponents accuse them of using misleading figures.

Trainee accountants told to quit

By Our Education Correspondent

Fifteen graduates article to one of the biggest firms of chartered accountants have been asked to resign after failing the first of three qualifying examinations to become chartered accountants.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants said yesterday that it was "normal practice" to allow students at least two attempts at the examination.

But students were under probation for the first year of their articles, and it was up to individual firms to decide whether to end their contracts.

Universities defend UGC part in cuts

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

University vice-chancellors are vigorously defending the University Grants Committee (UGC), the body poised to axe large sections of the university system. The letters informing universities of the size of their cuts, with advice on what should be axed, are due to go out at the end of this month.

Sir Alec Morrison, Vice-Chancellor of Bristol and chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, has written to Mr Neil Kinnock, opposition spokesman on education, denying his recent allegation that the UGC "seems to have abandoned any pretensions to an independent role between government and the universities", and was "now simply the executor of punitive cuts in higher education".

Sir Alec said "that the universities had every reason to suppose that the Government was forcing the UGC to act in an intolerable manner, as a matter of constitutional propriety, it had never been challenged that it was for the Government and not the UGC, to determine the total resources to be made available to the universities."

He said: "All we can expect of the UGC is that they should advise as strongly as they can concerning the inadequacy of this. But once those limits have been set, I am sure the universities would much prefer the consequent distribution of resources to be in the hands of the UGC rather than those of the Department of Education and Science."

For that reason, the vice-chancellors did not agree with colleagues in the Association of University Teachers that the Government was forcing the UGC to act in an intolerable manner, as a matter of constitutional propriety, it had never been challenged that it was for the Government and not the UGC, to determine the total resources to be made available to the universities.

It suggests that special development orders might be appropriate, for example, to the construction and extension of industrial estates; the designation of industrial improvement areas; the building of housing estates in areas where the local authority is anxious to stimulate development; and certain urban sites where the developer was prepared to invite open design competition.

The purpose would be to stimulate development by providing the developer with the prospect of speed and certainty of decision with a minimum of red tape, the circular states.

In the country as a whole 60 per cent of students failed to pass the final qualifying examination. It was very wasteful, he went on, and the institute was encouraging firms to weed out likely failures after the first year. Later the institute denied it had given such encouragement.

Mr Woodley also claimed there was nothing new in the line taken by the firm.

had little chance of success in what were very tough examinations later on.



The Duke of Wellington at Euston, London, yesterday in the cab of an electric locomotive to which he gave his name.

Way sought to speed planning

By Our Planning Correspondent

The Government is anxious to make greater use of special development orders to speed up planning decisions. Provision for such orders, subject to the consent of Parliament, is made in the Town and Country Planning Act, 1971.

A circular sent to local authority associations and to nearly 50 professional, business and environmental bodies says that Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, would like to examine the possibility of making fuller use of the provision.

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Police warning after killing in cemetery

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

The attacker who killed Mrs Ethel Page, aged 75, as she tended relatives' graves in Ealing and Old Brentford Cemetery, in west London, might be seriously disturbed and capable of further attacks, the police said yesterday.

Mrs Page of Maple Grove, Ealing, went into the cemetery on Wednesday afternoon carrying a bunch of roses to lay on graves in a quiet corner of the ground.

Her attacker struck while she was near the graves; her body was found by a cemetery worker several hours later. Police would not describe the nature of the attack but said it had been vicious. Mrs Page had difficulty walking and bad eyesight and could have offered little resistance.

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Committee on children to be axed

By a Staff Reporter

The Children's Committee, set up three years ago in the wake of the Court committee's report on child health, is to be wound up by the Government, despite its commitment to support the family.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced yesterday that the committee, whose job was to advise the Government on development of health and personal social services in support of families and children, will be disbanded in October.

Some of the committee's £50,000 a year budget will be transferred to the National Children's Bureau to carry on some of the committee's work, particularly the development of local initiatives to improve conditions for disadvantaged children. Work which the committee had well in hand will be completed.

The decision to wind up the committee, which was set up for an experimental three-year period, was made because ministers believe it has produced little of significance. Although it numbers doctors, social workers, psychologists and nurses among its members, ministers feel it has achieved little standing, particularly with the medical profession, and little interchange of ideas.

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IN BRIEF

Man dies after two transplants

Mr Ronald Rimmer, aged 43, who last week received a second heart transplant at Harefield Hospital, west London, died yesterday from kidney failure. The hospital said that the new heart had been working well.

Of the 18 patients who have received heart transplants at Harefield since the programme began there in January, 1980, 12 have died. Mr Rimmer, from Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, received his first heart last March and a second transplant on June 1.

Killers sentenced

Joseph Morton, aged 29, of Fallowfield, Manchester, was jailed for life, and Stephen Whittington, aged 16, of Whalley Range, Manchester, was ordered to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure when they were convicted at Manchester Crown court yesterday of murdering Louisa Pantry, aged 14, after he had thrown a pear at their car.

Claim rejected

Mr Brian Kinson, aged 51, who was ordered to retire with a gratuity and pension as a former chief quantity surveyor with Rochdale Borough Council after allegations of accepting favours from a building firm, lost his claim for unfair dismissal at the industrial tribunal hearing in Manchester yesterday. He denied the allegations.

17 questioned on death

Police were questioning 16 black youths and a girl, all from the Thornton Heath and Croydon areas South London, at Croydon police station yesterday in connection with the killing of Terence May, aged 19, in Thornton Heath last week. He was stabbed after being dragged from his motor cycle.

Rodgers quits

Mr William Rodgers, a joint leader of the Social Democratic Party, has resigned from the Fabian Society because of its decision to deny full membership to anyone not eligible for individual Labour Party membership.

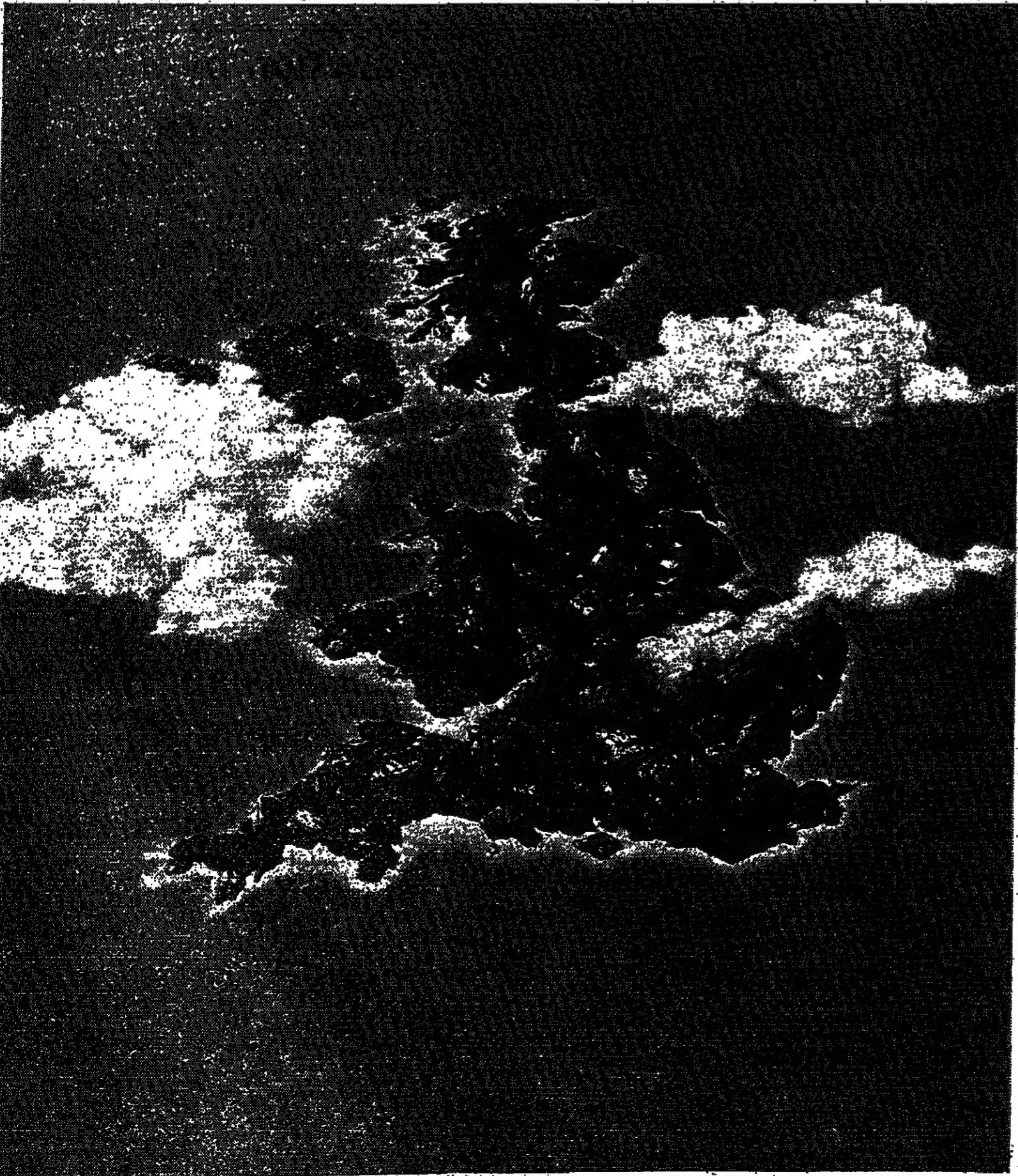
Gas report debate

MPs will debate the monopolies commission's report on domestic gas appliances on an Opposition motion on Wednesday. It states that British Gas should not be forced to end or curtail the selling and servicing of gas appliances, or to dispose of its showrooms.

Second death charge

Dominic Motson, aged 31, a labourer of Colwyn Bay, Ceredigion, was charged at Abergally yesterday with the murder of his son, Andrew, aged two. He is already accused of the murder of his daughter, Anne-Marie, aged four.

Coal: Britain's energy insurance.



Despite new discoveries like the North Sea, availability of oil for industrialised countries is certainly not going to increase, and will, in fact, diminish from now because of uncertainty about the Middle East — by far the biggest source of supply.

However, Britain has coal reserves which, based on present mining techniques and present levels of production, will last for at least another three hundred years, with the improvements in technology that will undoubtedly come during that time, the reserves will last very much longer.

WHERE WILL YOUR COMPANY BE IN 300 YEARS TIME?

There are three words you can read in the newspapers almost any day of the week: Middle East crisis. We'll leave it to you to conjure up pictures of soaring prices, unreliable supplies and increasingly tight stock.

There is now no concrete argument for not installing coal fired boiler equipment, particularly if your company is planning to be around for some time. Maybe even in 300 years time.

COAL: BE PREPARED TO BE SURPRISED.

There have been some very impressive advances in boiler technology, combustion, as well as methods of coal and ash handling.

It's now possible to operate in excess of 80% thermal efficiency, which makes coal firing both very economic and competitive.

It can be completely automatic with the modern coal and ash handling equipment. This permits coal fired boiler houses to be light, airy and clean.

And it's very up-to-date. Over the years extensive research and development programmes have been carried out. The most recent development is fluidised bed combustion.

This technique provides higher heat release rates, which means boiler sizes, and therefore capital costs, may be reduced.

It also means that a wider range of coal can be burned and with combustion taking place at a temperature below the melting point of ash, boiler availability is greatly extended.

COMPANIES THAT CAN SEE BEYOND THE NEXT 20 YEARS.

Many far sighted companies are using coal fired boilers already.

For example, John Sanders, Chief Engineer at Hotpoint, says "We are

experiencing fantastic savings whilst many around us are facing problems with other fuels. We selected coal as our main fuel because we had coal burning experience and we could see problems arising with other fuels."

Hotpoint have installed a completely new boiler house to provide space heating and process steam. The new boiler house and its four multi-fuel boilers are fired by coal. Hotpoint have found it to be economic, modern, efficient and spotlessly clean.

The four new GVB Vekos multi-fuel boilers burn weekly no more than 215/220 tonnes, compared with the four old boilers' 500 tonnes. And the whole system is virtually automatic.

LET US TELL YOU MORE.

The wide range of coal fired boiler plant and equipment is designed to meet every conceivable need, from power generating requirements to small units in commercial buildings. In addition there is a nationwide network of coal distributors who are strategically situated to give advice and provide an efficient service to industry.

If you would like one of our fuel engineers to visit and give you free, expert advice, please contact the NCB Technical Service.

This will include information on the recent government grant scheme which provides up to 25% of the cost of switching from oil to coal-fired boilers.

It's worth contacting us now. So that you can help your company to live later.

Send to: The National Coal Board, Technical Service Branch, Marketing Dept., Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7EA.

Name _____
Title _____
Company _____
Address _____

I would like some technical leaflets on modern industrial burning equipment ☐
I would like one of your fuel engineers to visit my company. ☐
We are considering installing new industrial coal fired plant. ☐
Please tell me more about the Government grant scheme ☐

NCB

COAL: BRITAIN'S ENERGY INSURANCE



King relaxes among the champions

King Khalid of Saudi Arabia spent the final day of his state visit to Britain yesterday in the more relaxed atmosphere of a visit to the National Stud at Newmarket, where he is seen above admiring Mill Reef, the former Derby winner.

Because of the bad weather the royal party travelled by car instead of helicopter from Buckingham Palace (Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes). But the rain held off later in the morning, enabling the king to sit in the stallion ring. He was shown the stud's four resident stallions, Mill Reef, Grundy, Star Appeal and Blakeney. The king then lunched at the Jockey Club.

Last night he gave a farewell banquet at Claridge's in honour of the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, the Prime Minister and Mr Thatcher were also present.

About thirty supporters of Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, were outside Claridge's protesting at the king's visit.

Ban on use of asbestos in insulation proposed

By Craig Seton

A ban on the use of asbestos for insulation has been proposed by the Health and Safety Commission, even though it acknowledges that industry has already largely ceased to use the material for that purpose.

In draft regulations published yesterday it recommends the prohibition of the future use of asbestos, which can cause lung disease and cancer, in sprayed coatings and thermal and acoustic insulation. It also suggests a licensing system for certain categories of people still working with the material in those forms. About 17,000 people work in the industry.

The timing of the proposed new regulations was condemned by Nancy Tait, the secretary of the Society for the Prevention of Asbestos in the Industrial Diseases, who accused the commission of forcing rules to follow the practice of industry rather than forcing it to adopt safer measures.

The new proposals are designed to implement recommendations made by the Advisory Committee on Asbestos in 1973, which decided on further controls to protect workers from the material, and to ban its use in new buildings and demolition industry, where many of the casualties and fatalities from exposure to airborne asbestos fibres occur.

In the past materials containing asbestos have been extensively used for lagging pipes, boilers and other vessels. Sprayed compounds containing asbestos have been widely applied to girders, walls and ceilings for fire resistance, thermal or acoustic insulation and decoration.

The commission said in a statement yesterday: "While evidence suggests that the use of asbestos for these purposes has largely ceased, a statutory ban, with limited exceptions, on the future use of asbestos in sprayed coatings and insulation is proposed in order that the health workers and the public will not be put at risk when the material is subsequently disturbed."

About 40 per cent of the people receiving compensation for asbestosis, a lung disease associated with contact with asbestos, from 1973 to 1977 had been engaged in applying and stripping insulation containing asbestos materials. An estimated 500 to 1,000 companies are thought likely to apply for licences, which will cost £50.

They have to give assurances to the Health and Safety Executive about training, supervision, equipment and safety procedures.

Mr Tait, who has been campaigning against the use of asbestos since her husband died from an asbestos-related disease, criticised the commission for not applying the new regulations to asbestos fire protection boards, asbestos cement, floor tiles, brake linings and other products.

Mental hospital neglect

How silent minority found a voice

By Kenneth Gosling



Nigel Evans: "A desperate situation"

Nigel Evans, aged 38, the freelance television producer and director at the centre of the controversy over *The Silent Minority*, shown on Wednesday, returned to Boro Court Hospital, near Henley-on-Thames, last night to discuss his film with the staff.

Later, he will go back to St Lawrence's, Caversham, the other hospital featured in his harrowing film.

"Had I any personal conscience that I cheated or that I showed an unfair picture, I would have said so. But I believe it is an accurate picture of a desperate situation," he said.

His decision to make the film sprang, not from his own family background, although his sister died young of a brain tumour, but from a day in Central Park, New York, in 1973 while he was on a Churchill Fellowship.

"I went to get ideas about involving the community in the life of disabled people. I went into Central Park and I saw 20,000 New Yorkers munched one to one with 20,000 mentally handicapped people."

The public response, of sympathy and indignation, left an indelible impression. He was involved at home in making health films, and he began his own working life as a teacher in a big film studio.

"But I was interested in the relationship between disabled people and the public. There was, I saw, an enormous amount of misunderstanding on both sides. I was interested in how effective films were in bridging that gap."

"That day in Central Park changed my life, really. I used the other half of the fellowship money to set up four one-to-one days in mental hospitals, in order to pursue this further. I met my mentor, Dorothy Heathcote, an extraordinary teacher. I watched her work with the mentally handicapped in a

special unit at Earl's House Hospital, near Durham."

The result was his film, *Seeds of a New Life*, for the *Omnibus* series, which showed how the potential skills of the mentally handicapped could be unlocked.

He was chairman of his own charity, One to One, and he was making films for other charities such as the Spastics Society when he met Richard Cresswell of ACTV, a programme called *Life for disabled people*, was started in 1977; then followed "Memories of Violence", about the rehabilitation of two educational subnormal boys from an East Anglian hospital with a history of non-accidental injury.

In 1978 that was followed by "We're Outsiders Now", an encouraging look at four people discharged from mental hospitals after long periods to start life in a group home.

It was while he was taking some months off to look at special projects that he stumbled on the back ward at Boro Court during a study of a community artists project.

"In seven years I had not seen a more blatant case of all-

most ritualized patient neglect. I was filming for fund-raising; but then I took the fatal decision, on a day in mid-July last year, to go back on the ward and film those residents again. "I had thought about it for at least two weeks. The professional implications were enormous but I was convinced this was unacceptable."

One to One is now at risk of losing its grant from the department, he believes, because of the programme. Sixty per cent of its income, providing for work in East Anglia, Birmingham and south-east England comes from grant-making trusts. But he cannot ask them for the running costs as well.

Closure, he believes, is imminent. But the overall picture is not wholly awful; people do have the capacity to give to the mentally handicapped people, he says.

New group launched to help handicapped

Mr Evans is to be vice-chairman of a new mental health body to be launched today by five important mental health charities (Lucy Hodges writes).

The new organization The Advocacy Alliance, aims to give the most vulnerable and forgotten patients in mental hospitals a friend and by passing on their knowledge and experience.

The organization is being set up in response to revelations in the "Silent Minority" documentary, and is a joint enterprise between the Spastics Society, Mencap, MIND, One to One and the Leonard Cheshire.

Its chairman is Mr Larry Gossin, MIND's legal director. The Advocacy Alliance will provide long-term friendship, emotional support and advice for patients, the groups announced. It will uphold their human rights and statutory entitlements, prevent abuse and neglect and ensure access to a high quality of educational, housing, health and social services."

'LISTENER' AND 'RADIO TIMES' BACK

By Our Arts Reporter

After the settlement of the journalists' strike, local editions of *Radio Times* will be published normally from July 11.

For the next two weeks national editions only will be published; there will be four editions from July 4 and after that all 25 local editions will appear. On Tuesday's issue the *Listener* failed to appear.

A spokesman for the National Union of Journalists at BBC Publications said yesterday that most of the *Radio Times* journalists had been considerably upgraded in their education, and the BBC had gone some way towards meeting the journalists' objections. "We think we have made a lot of progress and that the strike was successful."

Riot police would increase violence, conference told

From Arthur Osman, Eastbourne

An ad hoc committee set up to plan for moving police out of riot gear, and create a third force between the police and the Army, would increase the level of violence, a conference of police officers told.

Air transport would have to be considered within the next 10 years for the rapid movement of large numbers of police officers.

A further suggestion was that officers who had practical experience at a riot or large-scale incident should help planning by passing on their knowledge at seminars.

Because of the declared unhappiness of some local authority delegates, particularly new Labour members from the metropolitan counties, about their lack of participation in the conference, next year's conference would be different in structure and content, the Association of Metropolitan Authorities said.

Law Report June 11 1981

Council can seek injunction by itself

Westminster City Council v Jones

Before Mr Justice Whitford

[Judgment delivered May 22]

A local authority is empowered by section 222 of the Local Government Act, 1972, to institute civil proceedings seeking an injunction to enforce a stop order served under section 90 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1971, without the intervention of the Attorney-General.

His Lordship so held in proceedings instituted by Westminster City Council against Mr Evan Jones of Pentonville Road, Islington, London, and granted an interlocutory injunction to restrain the carrying on of an amusement arcade at 102 Westbourne Grove in breach of a stop order served on Mr Jones by the council.

Mr D. M. W. Barnes, QC and Mr R. J. Bower for Westminster City Council; Mr C. A. Brodie, QC and Mr M. D. L. Kalisher for Mr Jones.

HIS LORDSHIP said that Westminster City Council sought an interlocutory injunction to restrain Mr Jones from using, causing or permitting to be used on the ground floor premises at 102 Westbourne Grove, Paddington, London, as an amusement arcade, and from carrying on such an amusement arcade. Evidence showed that the premises were in a predominantly residential area. Previously they had been used as a chemist's shop but in December 1980 Mr Jones had taken a lease of the premises and had started using them as an amusement arcade.

Mr Jones had applied for planning permission for a change of use, but his application had not been considered because it was procedurally out of order (since it had not been accompanied by the required certificate stating that the application was made by the owners, or that all interested persons had been informed of the application).

On December 18, the council resolved to serve an enforcement notice under section 87 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1971. The council had also served a stop notice under section 90 of the Act, and had served it so as to take effect on January 5, 1981.

On January 19, Mr Jones lodged an appeal against the enforcement notice, giving as the sole reason that planning permission ought to be granted. Meanwhile he was continuing to use the premises as an amusement arcade. A summons was issued against Mr Jones in respect of his failure to comply with the stop notice, to which he has pleaded not guilty. The

matter is due for hearing on June 18.

The council's view was that their remedies under the statute were likely to prove ineffective; that the operation of the amusement arcade was causing a nuisance and disturbance in the area; that it detracted from its residential character, that it distracted children and was prejudicial to the amenity of the area; that the only speedy and effective remedy was to seek an injunction.

Mr Jones's evidence was that he took the lease with a view to setting up the amusement arcade, for which the premises were well suited, that there was no similar facility available in the area, and that while he knew that planning permission would be required, he thought that he would get such permission, having previously obtained planning permission in similar circumstances in respect of the premises at Pentonville Road. He stated that he had no desire to flout the law or the wishes of the council.

The relevant section of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1971, was section 90, which was in the terms: "(1) Where in respect of any land the local authority have served an enforcement notice, they may at any time before the notice has taken effect serve a further notice (in this Act referred to as a 'stop notice') referring to it, and having annexed to it a copy of, the enforcement notice and prohibiting any person on whom the stop notice is served from carrying on or continuing any specified operations on the land, being operations either alleged in the enforcement notice to constitute a breach of planning control or so closely associated therewith as to constitute substantially the same operations."

Mr Brodie said that the decision to serve the stop notice appeared to have been taken before the enforcement notice was served, whereas the proper sequence of events would have been a resolution to serve and notice, and only then for consideration to have been given to the service of a stop notice.

Both resolutions having been taken before service of the enforcement notice, the stop notice — it was said — had not been served in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

His Lordship did not so understand the relevant provisions contained in section 90 of the Act. He could see no reason why the two resolutions could not be considered at the same time. The whole point of a stop notice was to provide a

means of bringing undesirable activities to a halt.

The principal question was whether local authorities such as the plaintiff council had the power to enlist the aid of the civil courts to secure enforcement of the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act. The council relied on section 222 of the Local Government Act, 1972, which provided that where a local authority consider it expedient for the promotion or protection of the interests of the inhabitants of their area (a) they may prosecute or defend or appear in any legal proceedings and, in the case of civil proceedings, may institute them in their own name,...

That section in the plainest terms seemed to give local authorities power to institute civil proceedings in their own names if it seemed expedient to do so, irrespective of any other proceedings for the protection of the inhabitants in the area which might be available to them.

It was true that the section did not spell out in terms a right to bring civil proceedings in aid of the suppression of activities which might be classified as criminal. Nor did it in terms specify a right to institute proceedings in respect of breaches of a statutory obligation.

Mr Brodie's case was that only the Attorney-General in a relator action was entitled to institute proceedings for the prevention of criminal activities, because it was his function to do so for the protection of the public at large. The only exception would be if there was express statutory provision to the contrary.

His Lordship referred to the line of cases where injunctions

Chancery Division

had been granted to restrain infringement of the Shops Act by the setting up of Sunday markets, including *Southall Metropolitan Borough Council v Maxwell* (1977) 1 WLR 127 and *Stafford Borough Council v Elmford Ltd* (1977) 1 WLR 324.

Mr Brodie contended that a distinction should be drawn between cases under the Shops Act, or indeed under any other Act, where there was a duty on the local authority to enforce the provisions of the Act, and cases such as the present, where there was no such provision.

His Lordship then having referred to *Kent County Council v Batchelor* (No 2) (1979) 1 WLR 213; *Gouriet v Union of Post Office Workers* (1978) AC 435; *Attorney-General v Harris* (1961) 1 QB 711 and *Attorney-General v Smith* (1958) 2 QB 173 said that in his view section 222 of the Local Government Act, 1972, appeared to have been passed in order to empower local authorities to institute proceedings in any matter where previously the Attorney might have acted to protect the interests of the local people, and that the local authority thought it expedient. The question was whether, in the exercise of the court's discretion, it was proper to grant the relief sought.

Mr Jones knew when he took the lease that what he was proposing to do required planning permission for a change of use. He elected to proceed before he got it, and before taking any adequate steps to ascertain what the council's attitude would be.

At the adjournment on June 2 an application was made by the GIC for a further adjournment.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the granting of the adjournment was tantamount to declining to hold the inquiry at all. He held the inquiry at all. He held the inquiry at all. He held the inquiry at all.

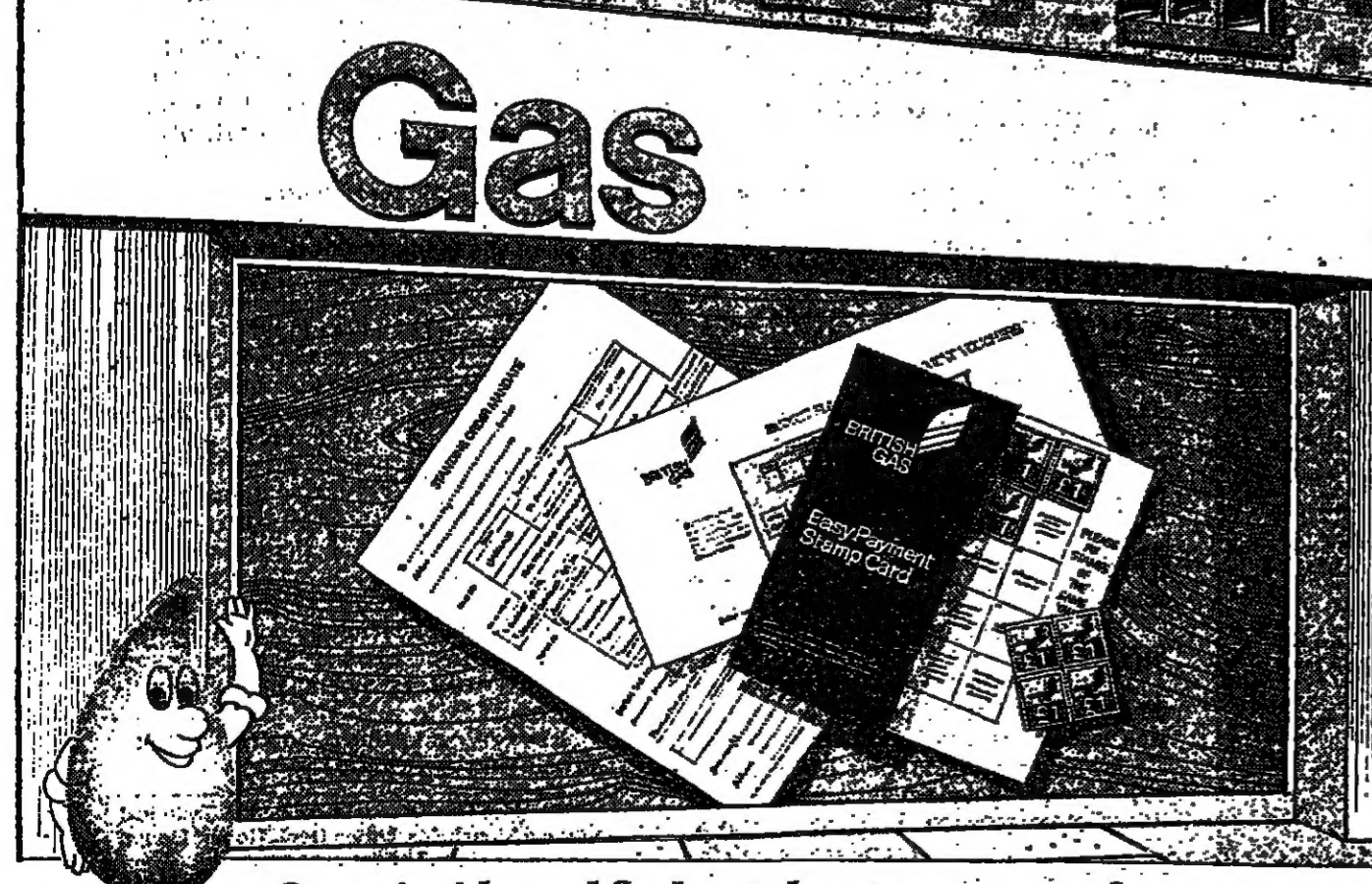
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New doubts on Windscale discharge

By David Nicholson-Lord

The controversy over the discharge of plutonium into the sea from the nuclear reprocessing plant at Windscale, Cumbria, seems certain to be renewed next month with the publication of a report raising fresh doubts about health risks.

The report, a copy of which has been obtained by *The Times*, also strongly criticizes the authorities for allowing the discharges to continue.

No other country discharged the products of uranium fission "so liberally" into the environment. In the United States, Windscale would not be allowed a licence, the report states.

Radioactive discharges in liquid effluent from the plant were the subject of prolonged technical dispute at the Parker inquiry in 1977 into the Windscale extension.

Much of that centred on the longer-term behaviour of the plutonium, 95 per cent of which is absorbed within days in sea-bottom sediment but which retains a radioactive half-life of several thousand years.

The new study, by the Oxford-based Political Ecology Research Group, based concerns chiefly on research done since the inquiry on possible pathways for the plutonium back into the atmosphere and the food chain.

It emphasizes, however, that present levels of human exposure, for example in the air along the west Cumbrian coast, where some 10 to 15 times normal fallout amounts of plutonium are present, are still less than 1 per cent of allowable limits.

About a quarter of a tonne of plutonium had been discharged into the Irish Sea, and the rate continued at about 15 kilograms a year.

The study questions the authorities' view that it would take an event of "cataclysmic proportions" to remobilize enough plutonium from sediment to constitute a hazard.

Recent research by the German Hydrographic Institute and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, in the United States, has provided data on plutonium concentrations in Scottish coastal waters.

Those showed a relationship not to the annual discharge from Windscale but to the cumulative discharge over three decades. There was "sufficient evidence that plutonium has the potential to remobilize from sediments, at least over relatively short geological time-scales."

"In our view there are ample grounds for believing that major remobilization of sediment, either following a 'cataclysmic' event such as an earth

tremor or storm, or more slowly as a result of geological processes, could lead to unacceptable high exposure along a significant section of the north-east Irish Sea coast."

Big reductions were needed in the discharges of plutonium, as well as of shorter-lived substances like caesium-137.

Other nuclear countries, such as the United States, Russia, West Germany and Japan, had effectively banned such discharges by reducing them to tiny amounts.

British Nuclear Fuels, which is responsible for the Windscale plant, said it would prepare a detailed reply when the report was published.

"Our discharges are made under authorizations granted to us by the government departments concerned, and are well within those authorizations," it said.

including Britain, had to import dairy produce.

The three-and-a-half-year qualifying period for subsidy applications has just ended, and subsidies have been paid on 298,000 dairy cows in Britain. Money is still being paid because the cash is issued to farmers in three instalments after the Government has checked that they have not sold milk in the subsidy period.

The number of British dairy farmers has been falling for more than twenty years. In the three years before the EEC subsidies began, the total dropped by just over 10 per cent to 69,000.

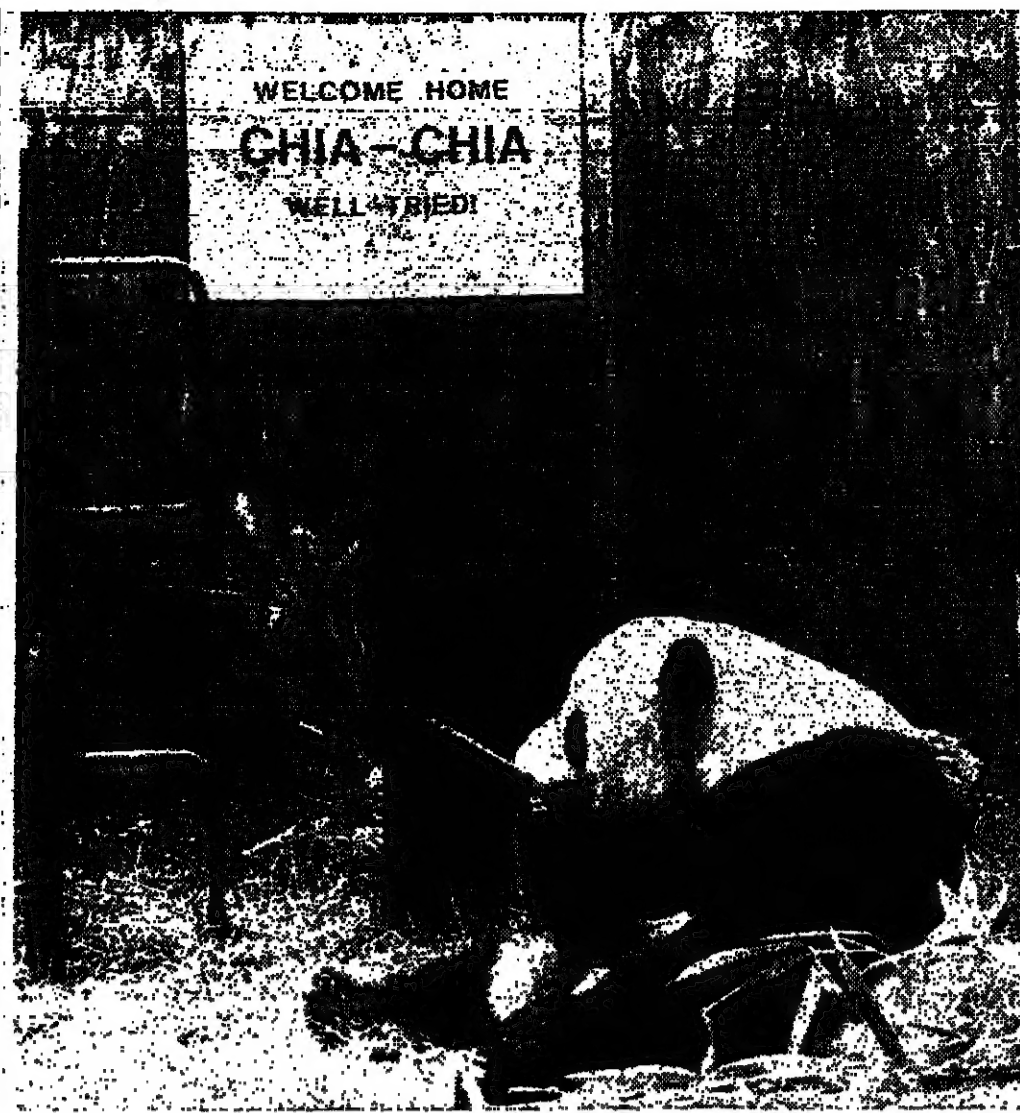
select Committee on Agriculture that the scheme had failed to meet its target of curbing the Community's milk surplus.

"It seemed at the beginning that this money would have been largely wasted by being paid to people who would have gone out of milk production anyway. Experience under the scheme suggests that largely it was."

The basis on which the Community had constructed the subsidies system was "questionable". It applied them equally in all member states, ignoring the fact that some countries had surplus while others, including Britain, had to import dairy produce.

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Down and out in Washington and London

Chia-Chia seeking solace in a bamboo shoot at London Zoo yesterday after flying back from the United States and his ill-fated love match with Ling-Ling, Washington Zoo's female giant panda. Ling-Ling spurned Chia-Chia's advances.

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Women who are dab-hands at home DIY

By Frances Gibb

Many women are a dab hand at home improvements and happily tackle such jobs as wallpapering and putting up shelves, according to a survey published yesterday.

More than eight out of ten wives said they enjoyed doing-it-yourself jobs and the same number said they would tackle most jobs themselves before calling in professionals.

Well over half said they were a match for their husbands when it came to home improvements and more than 80 per cent felt competent to do wallpapering and painting.

The survey also shows that a fifth had tried plastering, more than a third had put up shelves and one in seven had tried plumbing. It was conducted on behalf of Polycell Products Ltd by Taylor Nelson Associates. Some 500 wives throughout the country were interviewed, all first-time home owners who had tackled at least one DIY job in the last year.

The survey shows regional differences in the kind of work women do in the home. Northern wives are more likely to paint interior woodwork, and mend wall tiles and wallpaper, while in the Midlands, where in the sample there were more semidetached home owners, women tended to do more exterior painting.

1981 Polycell Report on the DIY Market Britain's DIY Wives Polycell Products, 30 Broadwater Road, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL7 3AZ.

Jobs threat seen in fishing curb

From Ronald Kershaw Leeds

Britain's inshore fishermen are to campaign against a clause in the Wildlife and Countryside Bill, now going through Parliament, which would restrict fishing and possibly threaten their jobs.

They say the clause was slipped into the Bill without consultations with the industry and they consider it a further intrusion into inshore fishing operations.

The clause seeks legal powers to designate marine nature reserves within which certain fishing practices, whether sporting or commercial, will be prohibited in an area of up to 1,000 metres beyond the low water mark and 10 kilometres along the coast.

The reserves are said to be for the conservation of wildlife, for research, monitoring and education.

Mr Nigel Atkins, chief executive of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations, said last night that the reserves could affect the earnings of inshore fishermen, whose margins had been trimmed to the limit.

The clause, he said, had been grafted on to the Bill at the committee stage in the House of Lords, although a working party examined nature conservation and the marine environment in 1979 recommended that there should be full consultation with all parties about legislation to establish and manage nature reserves.

Conservation and environmental groups believe that if no improvement is made in the Wildlife and Countryside Bill they should resist the whole Bill, Mr Denis Howell, Opposition spokesman on the standing committee on the Bill, said yesterday (John Winder writes).

Those groups believed that opposition to the Bill would focus attention on the matter and ensure that the Government would have to come back with a Bill which effectively protected the environment and amenity, he said at yesterday's committee hearing.

Mr Hector Monro, Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, said it was astonishing that people could cast aside all the good work and consultative papers of the past few years for the sake of a Bill in a few years' time. He did not believe that was the view of all conservation societies.

Mr Robin Grove-White, director of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, has written to Mr Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, saying that there was now little in the Bill that his council could defend as seriously tackling issues likely to be faced by Britain's wildlife and countryside over the next decade.

MPs told of £50m wasted subsidies

By Hugh Clayton, Agriculture Correspondent

Subsidies of almost £50m used by the EEC to induce British farmers to stop producing milk appear to have been wasted, Sir Brian Hayes, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, said yesterday.

Their effect had been to reward farmers for making changes to their businesses that they intended to make anyway.

The government estimates that the EEC will spend a further £15m in Britain this year on the subsidies, which are worth up to £700 a cow.

Sir Brian told the Commons Select Committee on Agriculture that the scheme had failed to meet its target of curbing the Community's milk surplus.

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Bill aims at free abortions by right on the NHS

By Nicholas Timmins

The first attempt to legislate to improve National Health Service abortion facilities since the Abortion Act 1967, is to be made by Miss Jo Richardson, Labour MP for Barking, through a 10-minute rule Bill to be introduced on July 1. It aims to make it a statutory duty for health authorities to provide free abortion on the health service.

About 46 per cent of the 130,000 abortions performed last year on residents of Eng-

land and Wales were undertaken by the service and there are wide variations in the facilities it provides round the country.

Miss Richardson said that 97 per cent of women seeking abortion in north Devon in 1979 were treated by the health service, while only 6 per cent of women in Dudley, West Midlands, who had abortions received NHS treatment.

The Bill stands no chance of becoming law.

Judge killer 'needs drug'

From Our Correspondent Preston

John Smith, aged 31, accused of killing Judge William Openshaw because of a long-standing grudge, was described as a "walking disaster" during a three-minute appearance at Preston yesterday.

He was remanded in custody for a further week. There was no application for bail. Two weeks ago, when reporting restrictions were lifted, Mr Barrington Black, defending, said on his client's instructions that Mr Smith had killed the judge, aged 68, at Preston because of a grudge.

Mr Black said yesterday that he had specific instructions to state that for some 13 years before his arrest the defendant had been on medication.

"Since his remand in custody he has been taken off the drugs totally. He is now completely off drugs and he feels he needs them."

FINE FOR PRO-IRA MARCHER

A demonstrator arrested at a march in Kilburn, London, on April 26 in support of the hunger-striker, Robert Sands, was fined £50 with £25 costs by Willesden magistrates, London, yesterday for obstructing a police officer. He had denied the charge.

Zan Bejm, aged 19, unemployed, of King's Avenue, Clapham, told the court that he thought the demonstration, organized by the National H-Block Armagh Committee, would be a rally, not a march; he knew marches had been banned.

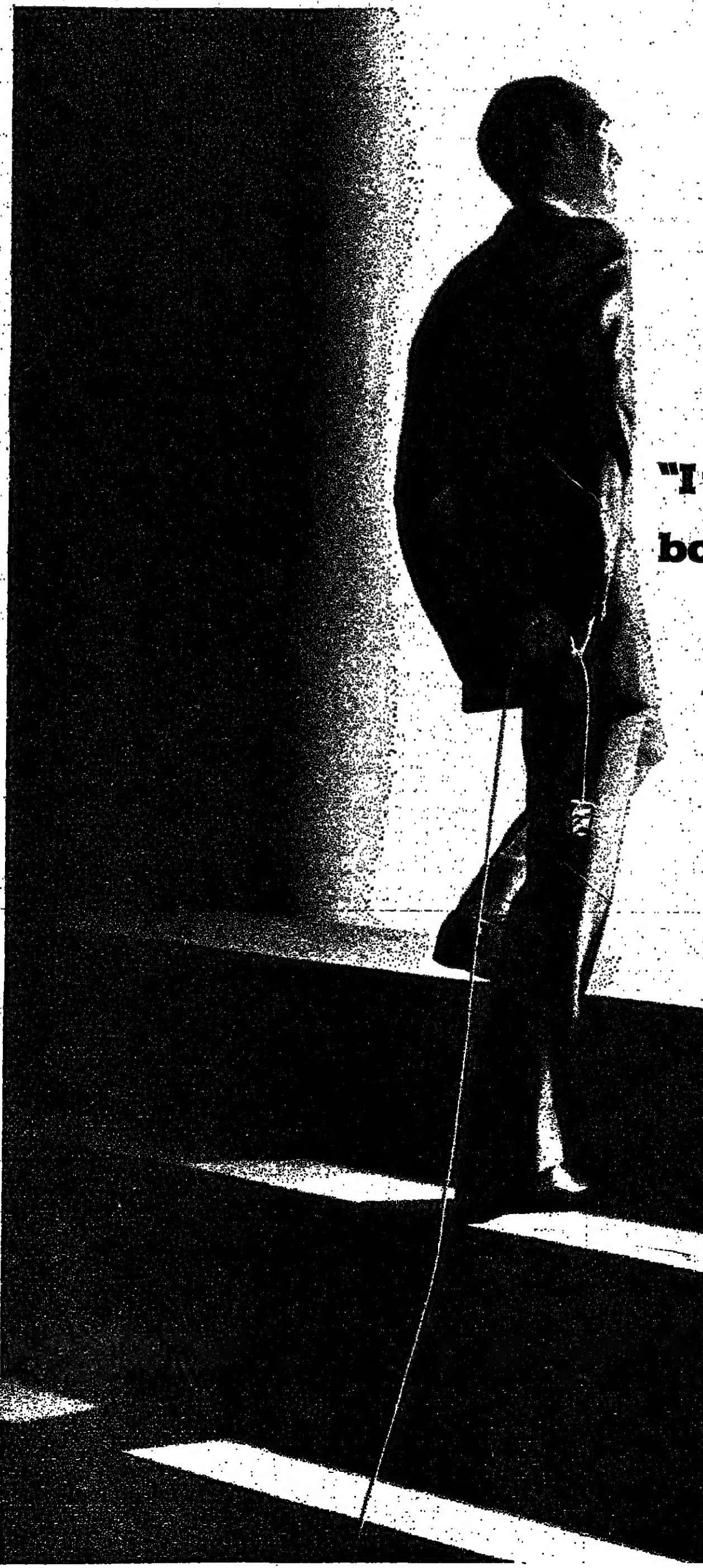
Mr Christopher Lake, for the prosecution, said that Mr Bejm had tried to prevent police officers from arresting another demonstrator, Police Constable Dominic Clout, the arresting officer, said Mr Bejm was arrested after an incident in which a youth was arrested for kicking an officer on the leg.

Mr Bejm said yesterday that he had specific instructions to state that for some 13 years before his arrest the defendant had been on medication.

"Since his remand in custody he has been taken off the drugs totally. He is now completely off drugs and he feels he needs them."

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Thatcher: Offer to civil servants worth 11 per cent

CIVIL SERVICE

The offer made to the Civil Service unions would along with the annual increments, give an average pay increase of 11 per cent starting from April 1, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during her exchanges in the House of Commons about the Civil Service dispute.

She said that 98 per cent of civil servants were on incremental scales which added 2.3 per cent to the offer. That was a very good bargain by an employer to his valued employees.

Mrs Thatcher said she utterly and unreservedly condemned any action which was cold and callous, by militant members of the Civil Service who were there to serve the people and not to cause them harm or damage.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, complained that the offer was "cold and callous" and "strangely from Mrs Thatcher's lips. If she thought she had such a good case in the Civil Service dispute, why was she afraid to put that case to arbitration?"

Mr Richard Alexander (Newark, C) called upon the Prime Minister to consider the fact that the Civil Service dispute and the resulting fear of the elderly, those in receipt of child benefit and other social advantages, were the responsibility for administering the Government's pay policy. We are entitled to know exactly where he stands, whether he condemns the offer, whether he condemns the proposed escalation of the Civil Service strike action which could harm the sick and elderly.

Would the Prime Minister invite Mr Foot to make it clear to the House whether he will join us in condemning any such action? (Conservative cheers).

C: It is true that as a result of the militant action of a small minority of civil servants, some people are in danger of difficulty in receiving child benefits and unemployment benefits, they are finding difficulty with getting passports and a number of people are finding difficulty with receiving VAT refunds and agriculture payments.

John Smith, MP, totally and utterly condemning those who wish to pursue their own ends by harming and damaging the interests of the public.

I totally and utterly condemn anyone who wishes to pursue his or her ends by harming the interests of the public, and in particular the weakest.

The vast majority of civil servants are working loyally and hard, and many of them are working overtime to see that the benefits are distributed. I do not wish to harm those in any way, or to harm their interests.

On the offer made of 7 per cent, bearing in mind that 98 per cent of the civil servants are also on incremental scales which would add up to another 2.3 per cent, and that this year's pay award, which was a 11 per cent award, was a 11 per cent award over the last year.

Mr Roger Moore (Faversham, C): Through the Leader of the Opposition, I would like to know the Government's pay policy. We are entitled to know exactly where he stands, whether he condemns the offer, whether he condemns the proposed escalation of the Civil Service strike action which could harm the sick and elderly.

Would the Prime Minister invite Mr Foot to make it clear to the House whether he will join us in condemning any such action? (Conservative cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: That is a matter for Mr Foot. I totally and unreservedly condemn action which is cold and callous towards the people of this country by militant members of the Civil Service who are there to serve our people and not to cause them harm or damage.

Mr Foot (Edinboro, Lab): The words cold and callous come very strangely from her lips. (Labour cheers) I think she should have a good case in the Civil Service dispute, why is she so afraid to put it to arbitration? (Labour cheers)

Mrs Thatcher: The Government has to reconcile what it pays its own employees with what the private sector can afford to pay. Perhaps he will recollect that the Government has suspended pay research for a considerable period of the Labour Government and will cast the beam of light on the private sector.

Mr Foot: She is misleading the country once again. When we made the suspension, there was a similar provision over the rest of the economy.

What she has done is to take out the reference for the civil

servants, tear up their particular system and then refuse to go to arbitration. I say that the more she comes to that despatch box and reads out her case about the Civil Service the more she will be exposed to the anger of the people of this country.

Would she review the case again and look at what she said to her at the beginning of this dispute? I warned her of many of the dangers and difficulties she was in at her own choice. She has chosen to ignore them.

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Foot left the pay of the Civil Service in such an appalling state that the Government had to honour all the blank cheques which Labour left.

We have to award the civil servants increases in pay much more over the last two years—over 50 per cent for the civil servants—because of the damage that Mr Foot has done.

On top of it, there is another offer of 7 per cent which, year on year, will amount to 11 per cent. I think that is a very good offer to an employer to his valued employees.

Bans on marches should be selective

PUBLIC ORDER

There was great danger of banning innocent marches, which should be allowed, when bans were imposed on other marches, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said during his exchanges in the House of Commons.

He accepted the need to be selective where ever possible.

It is areas like that of the Metropolitan Police (he said) the problem of being totally selective is at the beginning of this dispute. It is a matter for the Metropolitan Police.

Mr Stanley Newman (Harrow, Lab) said that blanket bans might prevent innocent, separate and democratic rights to demonstrate when the intention was merely to deal with a particular group who might be considered a threat to public order.

Surely we must recognize that in these circumstances we are possible, allowing Fascist and other groups to prevent people, who might not even be involved in politics, from using their right to demonstrate.

He suggested that Mr Whitelaw might be more selective in tackling this problem.

Mr Whitelaw (Leicester, C) said that the Home Secretary's view might be sought for a ban on marches was the likelihood of serious public disorder of the present powers (he continued) are being considered in the course of the Government's review of the Public Order Act 1936 and related legislation.

I shall make a fuller statement on completion of that review.

Mr Whitelaw: These are areas which will have to be considered when we look into the Public Order Act. At the moment, chief constables, and therefore I, have to address ourselves purely to the danger of serious public disorder.

It is not our intention to restrict the right of people to demonstrate, but we must ensure that they do not cause serious public disorder.

Mr Whitelaw: Under present legislation, the decision by the Chief

Constable on whether to apply for a ban must be based on the question of fear of serious public disorder, as must my response.

Mr Stanley Newman (Harrow, Lab): I am most strongly in favour of a ban on marches, particularly those which are racist, fascist, or otherwise dangerous to public order.

Mr Whitelaw: I am most strongly in favour of a ban on marches, particularly those which are racist, fascist, or otherwise dangerous to public order.

effectiveness in many other areas where the police have to be moved in order to look after these

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab): Democracy is a costly business. It would be quite simple to cut down the cost with a dictatorial regime. We could not possibly accept that situation.

The selective concept of marches has already been accepted by the fact he personally agreed to the trade union march on May 1 and the people's march which was perfectly peaceful and successful and accepted by all as first class for democracy in this country.

Mr Whitelaw: I am most strongly in favour of a ban on marches, particularly those which are racist, fascist, or otherwise dangerous to public order.

Mr William Van Straubenzee (Wokingham, C) asked if Mr Whitelaw had received any representations to transfer the control of the Metropolitan Police to the Greater London Council.

Mr Whitelaw: I have received no such representations from the G.L.C.

Mr Van Straubenzee: Can he confirm it has been the view of successive governments that the Home Secretary is the appropriate authority for the Metropolitan Police?

Mr Whitelaw: The Prime Minister made clear in this House the other day that this Government would not change the position whereby the Home Secretary is the authority for the Metropolitan Police.

Earlier, Mr Whitelaw had given figures on the number of orders made in 1978 and six in 1980. Eleven orders had been made this year.

Mr Andrew Bennett (Stockport, North, Lab): The increase in bans is disturbing. The bans have become a necessary evil because of police failures to prosecute people who have been preaching racial hatred during demonstrations, in

future there should be only selected bans against those who would use violence and preach racial hatred.

Mr Whitelaw: I am not in favour of having bans. Chief constables would select only when they believe serious public disorder is likely. Only in these cases could I accept them.

Mr John Betcher (Coventry, South West, C): The City of Coventry is in danger of becoming a playground for extremist groups, left and right, who seek to make mischief out of the worst issue of the town.

Will Mr Whitelaw liaise with the Chief Constable of the West Midlands? Most Coventry citizens would welcome a three month ban on demonstrations so that local people have a chance to solve their own problems in a calm atmosphere.

Mr Whitelaw: I realize there have been disturbing signs of disorder in the West Midlands. I spoke to the Chief Constable about this last night when I happened to see him. He would have to approach me only if he wished, on grounds of serious public disorder, to have a ban on marches.

He would much prefer the marches to continue provided it is possible without serious disorder. He would have to approach me only if he wished, on grounds of serious public disorder, to have a ban on marches.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Chief Opposition Whip, said that he would like to see Mr Whitelaw in the House of Commons to put forward proposals for that.

We have to be careful, if we believe in freedom of expression, we must not allow ourselves to be like what we are allowing them to do like to go on. It is important to be impartial.

Politics and women's lib damage women's progress

DEBATE

The Government's policy was a reflection of a philosophy which regarded women as inferior and working women as the most inferior of all, Mrs Gwyneth Davies (Cardiff, Lab) said during her exchanges in the House of Commons.

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The more women seem to be successfully fulfilling those roles they were so often denied, the easier it would be not only to overcome prejudice but to encourage girls and women to aim for those objectives in their own careers.

Further action was needed in providing the right social framework for the advances women had made. But to be a good housewife and mother was not a good thing, Mrs Davies said.

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Immediate inquiry into jail break

ULSTER

There is to be an immediate inquiry into security arrangements at Crumlin Road prison, Belfast, after the escape yesterday of eight men, Mr Humphrey Allister, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, announced in a statement.

He said: Eight prisoners escaped yesterday afternoon at about 4.15 p.m. All of them were at the time on remand. The trial of seven of them had already ended, and the judge is expected to deliver his verdict tomorrow.

The police and Army mounted a large-scale operation immediately after the escape. This is continuing, but so far none of the escaped prisoners has been recaptured.

Immediately after the escape, two solicitors and one solicitor's apprentice were arrested and are still in police custody. It is believed that the three men were in contact with the escapees.

I regard the escape of any prisoners, and especially the escape of these three men, as a very serious matter. It is a matter of the greatest concern. At my request the Home Secretary has ordered an urgent inquiry into security arrangements at the prison.

Mr Denis Canavan, chief opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland, (Mansfield, Lab): The Opposition views with alarm this escape from Crumlin Road prison, and welcomes Mr Allister's assurance of a thorough investigation.

A special word of praise is due to the police officers who are working hard to bring these men back. I wish a speedy recovery to those who are in police custody.

From my own experience it seems plain that this breakout only too clearly shows the need for a more secure prison system. Without those weapons the prisoners were able to arm themselves. Without those weapons the prisoners were able to arm themselves.

So the main question to be asked is: how can we ensure that such a breakout does not happen again?

EEC talks on combating international terrorism

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, plans to hold a meeting of European Community ministers to discuss the need for co-operation in combating international terrorism.

He said: Effective action to combat international terrorism requires co-operation between the member states of the European Community.

It is desirable that such co-operation should be widened to include the EEC, with its supranational powers, in the place to start.

Mr Whitelaw: There is a lot of co-operation between the member states of the European Community, but it is desirable that such co-operation should be widened to include the EEC, with its supranational powers, in the place to start.

There are some particular reasons which have to be considered. That is the purpose of such meetings. But international co-operation against terrorism is a very wide area.

Without it, things would be even more difficult. Mr John Evans (Aberdeen, Lab): I am most strongly in favour of a ban on marches, particularly those which are racist, fascist, or otherwise dangerous to public order.

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Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be the debate on the Transport Bill, which is expected to be introduced by the Home Secretary.

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Majority in favour of compulsory seat belts

The House of Lords voted by a majority of 40 to make the wearing of seat belts by car drivers and passengers compulsory. A new clause in the Transport Bill, introduced by Lord Nugent of Guildford, was passed.

Lord Nugent: The new clause is a very important one. It is a measure which will save lives and reduce the number of injuries caused by road accidents.

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Electoral law Bill coming

Details are to be published today of the Electoral Law Bill, which is expected to be introduced by the Home Secretary.

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Charity body causing grave disquiet

The Government should advise the Charity Commissioners that their decision to prefer short-term financial advantage over the long-term interests of scholarship holders is a matter of grave disquiet.

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Peer to sue over air fares

Lord Bethell (C), who is also MEP for London, North-West, said in the Lords that he would soon be bringing a legal action against the EEC Commission for fixing air fares and arranging an illegal cartel.

The present system of fixing air fares within the EEC member states was totally illegal under the Treaty of Rome, he said.

He said that the EEC Commission was fixing air fares and arranging an illegal cartel.

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Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private Members' Bill, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830,

New groups threaten democracy in Spain

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, June 11

The emotive word *desencanto* (disenchantment) is being heard once again in Spain. But this time it is not being used as a weapon of psychological warfare against one politician, as it was to oust Adolfo Suárez from the post of Prime Minister earlier this year, but against the country's main political parties.

Señor Antonio Garrigues Walker, one of Spain's best known businessmen, has just resigned from the *Liberal Clubs* organisation he has devoted himself to his "Liberal Clubs" movement. A group of other public figures headed by Señor Ramon Tamames, the distinguished economist who has just broken with the Communist Party after more than two decades in its ranks, is about to launch a self-styled "Foundation for Progress and Democracy."

The chief reason for the appearance of these movements now is the delicate position Spanish democracy finds itself in since February's failed military coup. Another reason is that the general election which must be held by the spring of 1983 is already casting its shadow over the political scene.

The two principal parties—the ruling centre Democratic Union (UCD) and the Socialists—have quickly expressed their disapproval of the clubs. The parties' motivations for their unease are different. The Socialists, according to recent public opinion polls, could see as much as 40 per cent of the popular vote and win power. They therefore do not want any movements that could damage their prospects.

The UCD, frightened by the polls' verdict that it may only attract 25 per cent of the vote, suspect Señor Garrigues' Liberal Clubs as signalling the thumbs-down for the party.

Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, has been forced to join in the debate, declaring last weekend his determination that there should be no early general election. He insisted that the UCD continued to be a centre party obtaining votes from all social groups, notwithstanding his personal image as a conservative.

The Prime Minister's difficulty is that the UCD is deeply divided over how to respond to the pollsters' warning, accepted as correct in banking and business circles. Señor Miguel Herrero, the leader of the UCD's parliamentary party, today repeated his call for the resignation of Señor Calvo Sotelo's statement, for a broad-based moderate party of the right representing, and responding to, interests similar to the Christian Democrats in West Germany or the Conservatives in Britain.

The main political parties have undoubtedly suffered a shock from last February's seizure of Parliament. But what is really disturbing about the clubs and foundations is that they recall the experience of the last years of the Franco regime, when political parties were banned instead of responding to today's flourishing democracy in Spain.

US rejects Greek arms plea

From Mario Mediano
Athens, June 11

The Americans have turned down the Greek request for a grant of sophisticated military equipment as a bonus for allowing the United States to continue using military facilities in Greece.

This could lead to a breakdown of the negotiations unless the Government can induce the Greek military to withdraw this demand, which is over and above the ordinary American military aid.

The American reaction was communicated to the Greek Government by way of letters from the American Secretaries of State and Defence to the Greek colleagues explaining the reasons for Washington's inflexibility on this matter.

Sources close to the negotiations pointed out the contradiction of the position of the Greeks, who have obtained adequate assurances for balanced grants of American military assistance to Greece and Turkey, promptly tried to upset this balance.

The value of the extra list of equipment wanted by Athens is estimated at between \$200m and \$300m (£100m and £150m). American sources indicated that the negotiating process was still continuing to resolve several remaining outstanding issues. But the final Greek reply on the key until the differences would have to await until the visit of Mr. Constantine Mitsotakis, the Greek Foreign Minister, who is due to return on Friday night from a visit to Warsaw.

The Greek Government has told the American Embassy that if the negotiations, now in their fifth month, are not wound up by next Monday, there will be no time left for ratification of the agreement before the Parliament's summer recess.

DALSAGER OUT OF HOSPITAL

Copenhagen, June 11—Mr Paul Dalsager, the Danish European Commissioner for Agriculture, was discharged from hospital in Hjørring, Jutland, today after treatment for a heart condition, doctors said. He had a mild coronary attack on May 29 (Christopher Follett writes).

Mr Dalsager is to take a month's holiday before resuming his post in early August.

Mitterrand side may rely on voters' euphoria

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, June 11

When a majority of French voters elected M. François Mitterrand as President of the Republic, the supreme office in the Fifth Republic, was, for the first time in 23 years, conquered by the left. And for the first time in 45 years, since the Popular Front Government of 1936, the left is in power in the country.

But despite the preeminence of the President in what has been called the "republican monarchy" instituted by General de Gaulle, it will not be in undivided power unless the same clear majority confirms the choice in the parliamentary election on June 14 and 21.

That election will show whether the 4 per cent of the electorate who tipped the scales a month ago really voted for M. Mitterrand and for a policy of social democratic change, or whether they gave expression to a widespread sentiment of rejection towards M. Giscard d'Estaing's style of government and his policies.

"There is no Socialist tide in France," M. Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, proclaims. "There is a desire for change. Now that the principle has been achieved, the problem is to set out clearly its contents and its limits."

If M. Chirac is right, French voters should return the old Gaullist and Giscardian majority, and not make a mistake on a Socialist Government.

But that is not the way things look within three days of the first round of voting. The outgoing majority has against it both the mood of the country and the logic of the Fifth Republic. The mood of the country as confirmed by political analysts and opinion polls, remains euphorically optimistic, after two weeks of government which the Socialists have put to rest electoral uneasiness by distributing favours to the lowest paid workers, farmers, pensioners, young married couples and the handicapped.

The right-wing *Figaro Magazine* noted in a leading article in its latest issue that "Frenchmen have put on rose-coloured spectacles to con-

template reality and its sombre prospects... They are demonstrating a wonderful capacity to dream."

The threat to the franc and the drastic fall in French share prices on the Paris Bourse, have not apparently affected it. The standing in public opinion of President Mitterrand and M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, reaches unprecedented heights.

Even lesser known and more controversial Socialist leaders, like M. Lionel Jospin, the first secretary of the party, and M. Jean-Pierre Chevènement, the leader of its left-wing, achieve bewildering scores in the popularity stakes.

It is almost too good to be true, and certainly too good to last. But there is no sign that the French voters will wake up from this dream in time to reverse or even to qualify the choice which they made a month ago.

However relative the power of the National Assembly, a right-wing majority could block the social change decided by a Socialist President, and refuse to provide the means to finance them, not to mention the controversial undertaking of extending the nationalized sector.

It would also threaten to produce a constitutional crisis. That is why M. Mitterrand two days ago called upon the voters to give him the means to carry out the policy for which he had been elected.

A simple transposition of the results of the presidential elections to the parliamentary picture would give the left—Socialists and Communists combined—508 seats out of 491. But the Communists, who lost the election is whether the loss by the Communists of more than one million votes on April 26 constitutes a permanent factor or merely a temporary setback.

If the Communists recover 2 or 3 per cent of their lost votes, this could tip the scales back in favour of the outgoing majority, because the switch by Socialist voters to a Communist candidate in the second round is always much more arduous than the other way round.

Italian Republican leader begins coalition talks

From Peter Nichols, Rome, June 11

Senator Giovanni Spadolini tonight began consultations in his attempt to become the first politician to break the 35-year Christian Democratic monopoly of the office of Prime Minister.

He was summoned by President Pertini this morning after the previous candidate, Signor Arnaldo Forlani, the Christian Democratic leader, threw in his hand. Senator Spadolini, who leads the small Republican Party, is the third non-Christian Democrat to be invited to form a Government. Neither of the earlier attempts succeeded.

Since the end of the war, Italy has had only one Prime Minister who was not a Christian Democrat—Signor Ferruccio Parri—and he only lasted a few months.

The senator's chances of success look marginally better today than they did when the President's decision last night shocked the Christian Democrats. They have taken the view that the prime ministership is theirs for as long as they remain the biggest party.



Senator Spadolini: Support from Socialists

At the moment, they might find it still more difficult to accept the need for change because of the Masonic scandal which brought down the last Government and prevented Signor Forlani from forming another one.

To go now might suggest to the Christian Democrats that the party leadership was accepting some degree of guilt. Senator Spadolini, however, went out of his way today to speak highly of his predecessor and at least on the Christian Democrats' left there are signs that the door is not totally shut to a change.

The Socialists say that they will support Senator Spadolini, and the Communists issued a statement today asserting that a genuine change would require their presence in government. But they were ready to do their part, even if from opposition, to permit an immediate improvement in the political and moral climate.

They also offer him some sage advice on how to set about reviving constitutional proprieties "beginning with the exercise of the powers granted to the prime minister for choosing his ministers outside the traditional and inadmissible interference from party secretaries and factions."

One of the casualties of the political confusion is Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister. He arrived today on his European tour. He is meeting Italian politicians; but he cannot, of course, discuss specific business because the ministries are in the hands of caretakers.

The Japanese had placed much importance on the visit and had gone to great pains in preparing it. The political aspect of the visit at a time when the Japanese are looking for a closure in Europe was regarded as of primary interest.

CDU MAYOR ELECTED IN BERLIN

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn, June 11

Herr Richard von Weizsäcker, a Christian Democrat, was today elected Chief Burgomaster of West Berlin with the help of rebel Free Democrats in a vote which many Free Democrats fear will pave the way for a Christian Democrat-Free Democrat coalition in Bonn.

Herr von Weizsäcker whose party came two seats short of an absolute majority in last month's city elections, will head a minority government supported from outside by five Free Democrats.

The five defied their local party congress which had decided not to collaborate with the Christian Democrats in any way. Many suspect that support would eventually lead to a full coalition which would be the thin end of the wedge for a similar alliance in national politics.

Herr von Weizsäcker thus became the first Christian Democrat Chief Burgomaster of the city for 26 years.

REPRISALS IN RED BRIGADES

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, June 11

The Red Brigades terrorist movement today claimed to have kidnapped Signor Roberto Pecci, a young man missing from his home last night in San Benedetto del Tronto.

The man is the brother of the first leading member of the left-wing terrorist group to cooperate with investigators after his capture, and this is the first use of reprisal against a member of the family of one of their number who confesses to a "qualitative" change in the behaviour of the terrorists.

Signor Patrizio Pecci, the arrested terrorist, gave evidence which led to the arrest of several members of the Red Brigades operating in Piedmont. He was held in February of last year and in the following April began his series of confessions.

He was the first leading member of the Red Brigades to confess. He said that he was the head of the Turin column and belonged to the strategic command of the movement.



M. Jacques Chirac shakes hands with supporters before a rally in Châlons-sur-Marne yesterday.

Chirac tells rally that France is awakening

From Ian Murray, Châlons-sur-Marne, June 11

For an hour before the two white Mystère aircraft came screaming in from the south, M. Roger Mambour had been nervously dusting his shoes with his increasingly dirty handkerchief and tugging at the front of his sky-blue waistcoat.

He was proud and happy because, as one of the volunteer security men for the Gaullist RPR movement in the area, he was about to meet M. Jacques Chirac, his party leader and idol. With leaders of the RPR from the Marne department he had driven in a fleet of shiny cars to the small airport to collect M. Chirac.

Untypically, "le bulldozer," as M. Chirac is affectionately known, was late. That M. Mambour said, was a thing he had grown to expect from President Mitterrand, but "le bulldozer" usually ran just like a machine.

He was late because he was tired. It has been a long, hard campaign, even by M. Chirac's exhausting standards. He had gone to bed in Lyons at 1.30 am, having stopped for meetings, rallies, speeches and innumerable handshakes in 10 cities and towns since leaving Dieppe early the previous morning.

By the time the two executive jets flew in M. Mambour had almost had time to clean off the black oil engrained into his finger tips during his daily work as a mechanic.

M. Chirac quickly entered his car, after having run back to the aircraft to collect something he had forgotten. The fleet of cars then sped off so Châlons-sur-Marne with a cavalier disregard for speed limits. A hundred yards from the meeting hall, the cars screeched to a halt to let M. Chirac out to greet the crowd which had been patiently waiting for him.

He seemed to pull himself through the crowd with handshakes, acknowledging the claps and cheers and bearing wider than ever as the chant of "Chirac, Chirac" rang out.

In Châlons today he said that it had all been worth while. He had noticed that France was waking up. It had realized that Sunday's election was the most important in the history of the Fifth Republic. "Our citizens are opening their eyes and do not like what they see", he said.

The packed audience in Châlons, on the other hand, liked what it saw. It cheered M. Chirac to the echo. It was an audience of all ages and both sexes.

MPs go for free vote on Canada reforms

From John Best
Ottawa, June 11

In a move that could affect the final vote on the Canadian constitutional reforms of Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister, 13 senators yesterday announced their intention to vote independently on issues before the House, rather than along party lines.

The 13, included nine from Mr Trudeau's Liberal Party, asked for permission to sit as a block in the Senate chamber but Senator Jean Marchand, the Speaker, did not immediately comply with the request. Members of the group did not formally leave their parties.

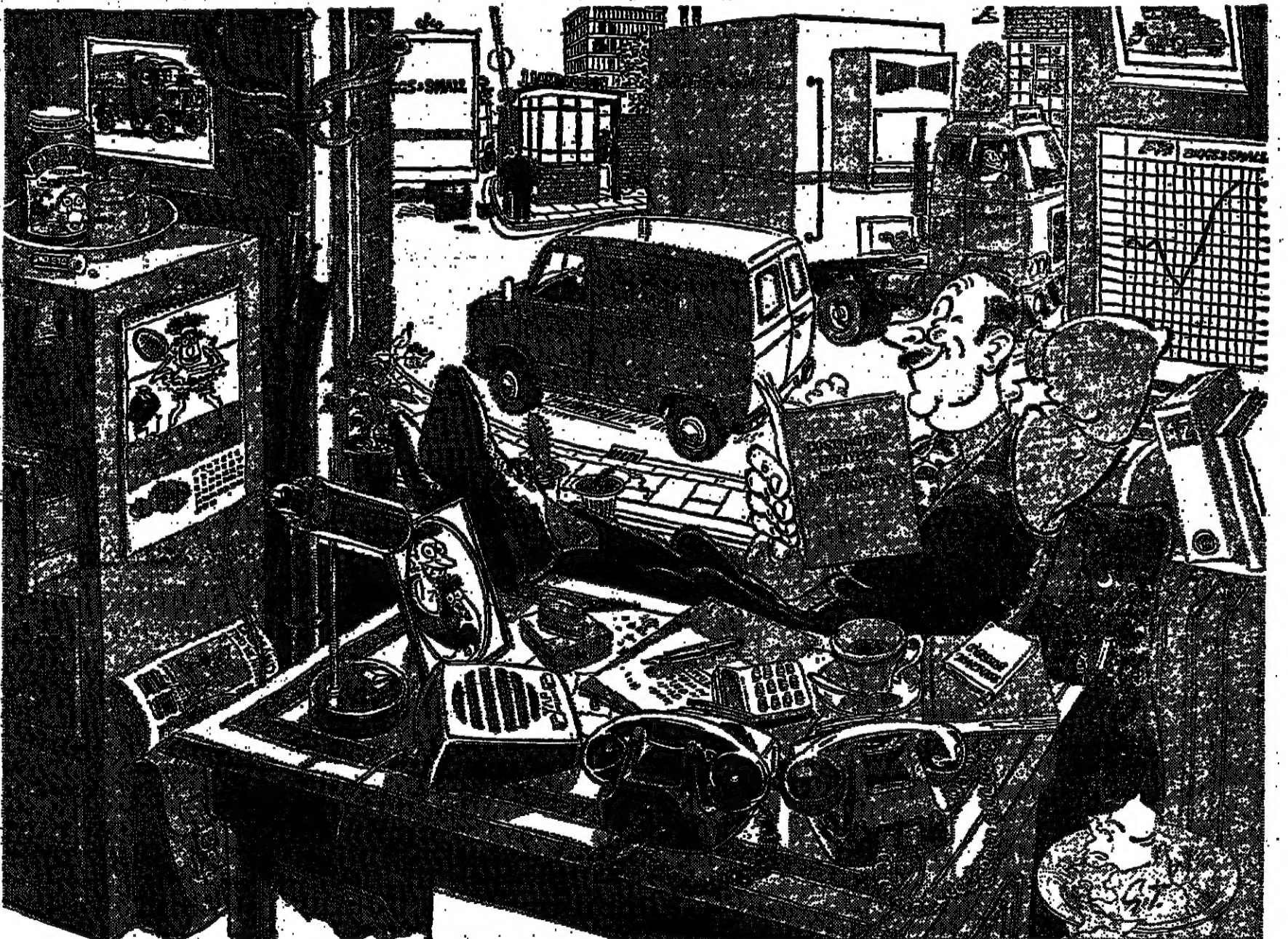
The spokesman for the group, Senator Jean-Paul Deschênes of Quebec, a former Cabinet Minister and former Speaker of the Senate, said in a declaration to the Upper Chamber that the 13 "desire to be associated only in their individual freedom and in their individual independence."

He added that although the constitutional resolution now before Parliament is not the only reason for the group's action, it had brought concern about senators' freedom and independence into focus.

By itself, the small scale rebellion will probably not affect the outcome of the Government's highly controversial resolution calling on Britain to relinquish final control over Canada's constitution after attaching an amending formula and a Bill of Rights.

The Liberals have a comfortable majority in the Senate, as they do in the Commons. However, if all the dissident Liberal senators voted against the reforms it could make the outcome much closer. Counting the nine, Liberals hold 64 of the 104 Senate seats, the opposition Conservatives 25. There are two independents, one Social Credit member, and 11 vacancies.

Debate on the constitutional resolution is now suspended in both houses until after the Supreme Court of Canada rules on its legality, which has been challenged by eight of Canada's 10 provinces.



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Israeli and Arab envoys summoned by Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, June 11

The White House announced today that President Reagan has invited the ambassadors of Israel and five Arab nations for consultations on the tense situation in the Middle East caused by the Israeli raid on Iraq.

The five Arab countries are Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Morocco, Jordan and Sudan.

The deliberately equivocal American reaction to the Israeli raid—initially condemning the attack followed by the token suspension of the supply of four F16 aircraft—is seen here as an attempt to maintain a balance between traditional support for Israel and maintaining good relations with conservative oil-producing Arab states.

In a letter sent to Congress last night, Mr. Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, said that Israel might have committed a "substantial violation" of its arms agreement with the United States and that the delivery of the four fighter-bombers was being held up pending a review.

The Administration has already made it clear that only the four aircraft will be delayed and that the temporary suspension does not affect other big arms shipments which are due to start at the beginning of July.

The new aircraft, which were to have been delivered on Friday, were part of a consignment of 75 F16s ordered by Israel, of which 53 have already been received.

Among other orders of defence equipment which have yet to be made are 200 M60 tanks, 600 six-air missiles, 800 air-to-surface missiles and 800 armoured personnel carriers.

The issue of whether Israel violated the terms of its 1952 Military Assistance Agreement with the United States is a political and not a legal one. The terms of the debate are already clear. It will focus on Israel's contention that its raid was a justified action of self-

defence because Iraq was planning to develop nuclear weapons. There already seems little doubt that this argument will meet with broad acceptance.

The relatively ineffectual pro-Arab lobby here has so far been muted in its response. However, some Arab sympathizers have accused the Administration of double standards by failing to cut off all arms supplies to Israel in the same way that arms shipments to Turkey were stopped after the invasion of Cyprus in 1975.

Arab countries and their supporters in Washington would appear to be reserving their position until they see what attitude the United States takes in the forthcoming United Nations Security Council debate.

The Administration has already ruled out any form of sanctions against Israel, but it is possible that Mr. Jeanne Kirkpatrick, the American representative at the United Nations, who was recalled to Washington for consultations last night, may approve a motion of censure against Israel.

What is still unclear is how the attack will affect the proposed sale by the United States to Saudi Arabia of five advanced warning reconnaissance aircraft (AWACS). The proposed sale has attracted strong criticism from the pro-Israel lobby.

Arab ambassadors from the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Kuwait, Iraq, Lebanon and Algeria urged the British Government to persuade the United States and other governments to suspend all military and economic aid to Israel (our Diplomatic Staff write).

At a 30-minute meeting at the Foreign Office Sir Ian Gill, the Lord of the Sea, repeated the strong condemnation of the Israeli action.

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Letters, page 15

Mr. Ephraim Evron, the Israeli Ambassador, expressed "deep regret and disappointment" at the Administration's action.

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Angry reaction to delay of F16 jet delivery

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, June 11

The Israeli Government reacted angrily today to America's decision to postpone the transfer of four F16 fighter aircraft, but there was cautious optimism in official circles that the steady flow of arms from the United States would soon return to normal.

The highly sophisticated jets were one of two types of American-built aircraft used in last Sunday's long-range attack on Iraq's main nuclear reactor. The Americans have already delivered 53 out of the 75 F16s it originally agreed to supply to Israel.

Officials here said that the Washington decision this week marked the first occasion when arms in the pipeline had been held up as a protest against Israeli actions. The so-called reassessment of American arms shipments to Israel in 1975 had only caused a freeze on new contracts.

A statement from the Israeli Foreign Ministry claimed that President Reagan's decision was unjust and regrettable, because Israel had acted in self-defence against threats to its existence by Iraq, which has declared itself to be in a state of war with Israel since 1948.

"Iraq actively participated in all the wars the Arab countries launched against Israel, and refused to sign either the armistice agreement or even a ceasefire. Iraqi leaders have incited the Arab states to enmity and aggression against Israel," the Foreign Ministry said.

"They neither restricted nor disguised their plans to use any weapons, be they conventional or non-conventional, against Israel."

The statement concluded: "It is in the light of this that Israel acted in self-defence, and self-defence only. Israel had no choice but to utilize every diplomatic avenue which was open, and

only after the efforts failed, Israel was forced to take the action it took. The Ministry spokesman later referred to the late President John Kennedy in his attempt to justify last Sunday's attack. He said that during the Cuban missile crisis in October, 1962, President Kennedy had stated that any change in the American-built aircraft used in last Sunday's long-range attack on Iraq's main nuclear reactor should be seen as a real threat to peace.

Earlier, Mr. Mordechai Zippori, Israel's Deputy Defence Minister, reflected a view widely held in the Government when he claimed that Washington's decision to hold up the F16s had been the result of a misunderstanding and would not lead to a crisis in relations with America.

Mr. Zippori added, without elaborating, that there were already signs from Washington that the special relationship between Israel and America would not be harmed. He added that the definition of Israel's defence would be decided by the Israeli Government, and not by any other government—however friendly.

Meanwhile the Government and the Labour opposition continued to trade election insults about the merits of launching the raid. Mr. Shimon Peres, the Opposition leader, announced that he had postponed a meeting he was due to hold next week with President Sadat.

Mr. Peres, who has repeatedly been upbraided during the campaign by the controversial tactics of Mr. Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, requested the postponement in a telephone call to Mr. Sadat today.

He asked to put off the meeting because he said that there was a danger that the latest week's summit in Sinai, it would be interpreted as direct interference in the general election due on June 30.

ARABS SEEK ISOLATION FOR ISRAEL

Baghdad, June 11.—Top officials from 20 Arab countries held an emergency meeting here today to formulate a response to the Israeli raid.

Mr. Saadoun Hammadi, Iraq's Foreign Minister, said the conference would call on all nations of the world to sever ties with Israel.

Mr. Hammadi was quoted by the official Iraqi news agency as saying the foreign ministers and other representatives adopted measures singling out the United States as Israel's main supporter.

He said practical measures had been adopted and emphasized that the United States was the main country giving assistance to Israel that led to the aggression.

He added that the conference would call on "all countries of the world to sever relations with the Zionist entity." He said other resolutions were adopted, but he declined to reveal their nature.



Charles Manson, convicted mass murderer, at his trial (left) and in his NBC television interview (right) to be broadcast in the United States tonight.

Paranoiac life of a jailed killer

From Michael Leppman, New York, June 11

The first long television interview with Charles Manson, jailed in 1971 for directing a series of ritual murders in California, will be aired here after midnight tomorrow. It shows him to be a rambling, middle-aged, unimpressive, unconvicted of his guilt and living in a world of unreality.

Mr. Manson led his "family"—a group of young men and women—on two murderous rampages through expensive areas of Los Angeles in August, 1969. Among the victims were Sharon Tate, the film actress, in a late stage of pregnancy, and a young couple, Mr. and Mrs. J. Paul Galt, who were killed.

Mr. Manson was sentenced to death, but when California abolished the death penalty in 1972 the sentence was reduced to life imprisonment.

Mr. Tom Snyder, the host of the late-night *Tomorrow* magazine programme on the National Broadcasting Company's network (NBC), flew to Vacaville, near Sacramento, California, to interview him in prison. It has been arranged through Noel Emmons, a fellow-prisoner of Manson in the 1950s, who is writing a book about him.

Mr. Emmons received \$10,000

(about \$5,000) for arranging the interview. Mr. Manson received nothing, according to Mr. Roger Ailes, the executive producer.

In the interview, Mr. Manson insisted that he had not killed anyone and gave evasive answers to specific questions about the murders. "He is somewhat disconnected from reality," Mr. Snyder said.

"He does not do an interview in the rational manner that you and I are accustomed to. . . . If you're looking for a confession, it's not here. If you're looking for remorse, it's not here. . . . He is as scared of us as we are of him and what he represents."

Mr. Manson has spent 34 of his 47 years in jail. "I was raised up in here," he said in the interview. "So I understand jail. So I understand myself and I can deal with that. I sit in my cell and I do my number, like a convict does his number."

"I never thought I was normal, never tried to be normal. Normal runs in a little rut down there. I don't know nothing about being normal."

"I've been in jail all my life. I've lived on a handball court."

This guy raised me. All the men in the joint raised me up and told me what to do, what was right and wrong, told me when to sit up, stand up, I used to do everything I was told; you know, I got to the end of it and I just turned round and said, 'wow'."

"If I can get some help from the doctor, then I can get my mind straightened out a little bit and maybe I could come back and play like a human."

Mr. Manson has long, straggly hair, a grey-flecked beard and tattoos on both arms. A short, man, he sat on a high stool for part of the interview, but at times wandered round the bar, and in an interview room waving his hands.

Asked how he felt about spending the rest of his life in prison, he said: "We're all our own prisons. We each are our own wardens and we do our own times."

"Sometimes I feel I've scared to live. Living is what scares me. Dying, it's easy. Getting up every day and going through this again and again is hard. So I'm carrying heavy thoughts, see. The thought I'm carrying is very heavy."

Two hardliners promoted in Czech party reshuffle

Prague, June 11.—Two hardliners have been promoted and one moderate demoted in a reorganization of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party.

The CTK news agency reported today after the party's general assembly that Mr. Frantisek Pitra had replaced Mr. Josef Kempany as secretary of the party Central Committee.

Mr. Pitra, who had been first party secretary for Southern Bohemia, was ousted from this position in 1968 but reentered it in 1969, during the period of normalisation.

According to CTK, Mr. Pitra

will be in charge of agricultural and food problems, a department which until now was the domain of Mr. Milos Jakes, a hardliner.

Mr. Jakes, who was given a renewed responsibility for the last party congress, takes Mr. Pitra's place in economic affairs and seems to be the main beneficiary of a reorganization of the Central Committee.

Western observers said there were indications of more government changes soon. A new directory of government ministers published this week omits the names of several official holders.—Agence France-Press and UPI

Britain out of step on jobs issue

From Peter Norman, Luxembourg, June 11

The British Government today found itself isolated from its EEC partners on the crucial issue of how to tackle unemployment.

After a special meeting of EEC ministers responsible for economics, finance and labour here today, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, was in a minority in advocating continued priority for strict monetarist policies to combat inflation rather than a new EEC approach to the problem of lengthening queue lines.

Although Sir Geoffrey said after the meeting that emphasis had been laid on EEC member states sustaining each other in policies that are "essential, but unpopular," the meeting left an impression given by other delegations was that in future the EEC would give a far greater priority to tackling the problem of unemployment.

One Community official, who declined to be named, reportedly said that the meeting had endorsed the British Government's approach to combating inflation. At the same time, he said the British had given no sign of changing their policies.

But it was the attitude of the new French Government, backed by the Italian, Irish and Danish delegations, that highlighted the differences emerging between Britain and the Community partners in the field of economic policy.

Kania pledges firm stand on discipline

From Richard Davy and Dossa Trevisan, Warsaw, June 11

The Polish Central Committee ended its emergency meeting with firm support for the present leadership, rejection of a demand for changes prompted by Soviet criticism, and an enhanced standing of Stanislaw Kania, the party's First Secretary.

It proved that Mr. Kania knows how to outmanoeuvre his opponents and swing the party to his side.

This was a new image of the man who has kept a low profile throughout the crisis and whom the Russians, in their latest accusation of being weak, hesitant and yielding. What Mr. Kania proved is that he can be tough, even ruthless, if need be, and that is something the Russians respect.

The Politburo went into closed session after an attack by Mr. Tadeusz Grabski on his fellow Politburo members and specifically on Mr. Kania whose ability to lead the party out of the crisis he openly questioned. But Mr. Kania succeeded in turning the tide by doing so he won the support of 49 regional party secretaries, and of all the seven army generals who sit on the Central Committee.

The generals who addressed the meeting were not the kind of liberals who are usually associated with the renewal process. They spoke of chaos and strongly emphasized the need for order and discipline; but they also stood firmly behind the line that renewal which means political dialogue and understanding was the only possible way forward.

In the end, 82 members voted against taking a vote of confidence in the Politburo and Mr. Kania and the Politburo in its present composition remained in office. Twenty-four voted on the other side, 50 members declined to take part in the vote, and five abstained. This was, in effect, a vote of no confidence in Mr. Grabski.

Earlier, there was another dramatic moment when Mr. Roman Ney, a deputy Politburo member, gave a warning that any change in the party leadership would be taken by the party rank and file and public opinion as a change enforced by Poland's allies and a departure from the socialist renewal course. "We cannot do it," he said.

Thus, the Central Committee confirmed that the programme of reform of all spheres of life will continue. But it also left no doubt that some retouching will have to be done in view

of the Soviet criticism and anxieties voiced in the Soviet Union by Mr. Kania in his closing address said were fully justified.

While he was aware that "some comrades already before the plenum wanted changes in the Politburo, and particularly in the most important Secretary" no one questioned the line which the party was pursuing, he said.

This should therefore serve as an incentive to persevere in the effort to regain social confidence in the authorities and in the party. There is, he went on, no other force that could be substituted for social trust.

But he also pledged that the leadership would act with more firmness in matters of discipline.

Tonight, the Central Committee announced new measures designed to show that it now intends to take the situation in hand. They are contained in a resolution agreed after two days of heated debate on the Soviet letter demanding a change of course.

The resolution says that political strikes are now inadmissible. Partnership with Solidarity, the independent union in seeking to encourage out of the crisis is accepted but the relationship must be based on socialist principles.

The party press must now defend the view of the party. Anti-Soviet publications will be regarded as contrary to the national interest.

The Government's ability to exercise its functions and stand up against anarchy must be enhanced so that normal work can be secured. The police and security forces must be able to carry out their duties.

The resolution also says that the party discipline, the resolution admits that tendencies have crept into the election campaign for next month's party congress which are against ideological and statutory principles of the party. These tendencies cannot be tolerated, it says.

□ Moscow: After two days of virtual silence on the Polish Central Committee meeting, Soviet television this evening announced in a brief report that the plenum had ended. It gave no details saying only that the crisis in Poland had been discussed.

This telling silence on the substance of the discussions at the meeting indicates that the Russians are deeply displeased by the outcome.

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Babrak Karmal resigns Afghan premiership

By Our Foreign Staff

President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan resigned the premiership yesterday and appointed one of his deputies, Sultan Ali Kishmard, to head the Government, Radio Kabul said.

The announcement, monitored by the BBC in London, said the change was made at the Afghan Revolutionary Council.

Since he took power in the Soviet-backed coup at the end of 1979, Mr. Karmal has held all three top posts in Afghan politics—President of the Revolutionary Council, the post which makes him head of state, Prime Minister, and general secretary of the People's Democratic Unity Party.

Mr. Karmal chaired the meeting at which yesterday's change was made, Kabul radio said.

The new Prime Minister had ranked second to Mr. Karmal in the Revolutionary Council, but had been officially number three in the government hierarchy.

Mr. Abdorashid Aryan, the First Deputy Prime Minister, who seems to have succeeded Karmal, is not a member of the ruling party Politburo.

The coup, when Soviet military forces invaded the country, made Afghanistan the focus of East-West tension for many months.

Reprisals by the United States and its allies included a

reduction in food sales to the Soviet Union and a partial boycott of last summer's Olympic Games in Moscow. Food sales have since been largely resumed.

□ Moscow: Mr. Karmal's decision to divest himself of the premiership does not seem as a surprise. He announced two months ago that he wanted to hand over to someone else. What is not clear is the extent to which the recent gun battles in Kabul are responsible for the choice of his successor (Michael Byrnes writes).

Mr. Karmal has reportedly urged Mr. Kishmard to patch up the quarrels within this ruling party.

Islamabad: Three Afghan Mig 25s are said to have intruded into Pakistani air space over Baluchistan and to have overflown a bus with rocket and machine gun fire on Wednesday (our correspondent writes).

One of the passengers on the bus was said to have been injured.

An official statement issued here said that the incident occurred in the Baluchistan town of Nushki, close to the Afghan border.

Late last year an Afghan helicopter, which had strayed in Pakistan was downed by ground forces. Two Pakistanis had been killed by the gunship.

Dr Owen in talks on disarmament

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow, June 11

Dr David Owen, the former Foreign Secretary, arrived in Moscow today to take part in an important gathering of present and former statesmen who have come here to discuss disarmament, security and the prospects for better East-West relations.

Dr Owen is a member of an international body founded last September by Mr. Olof Palme, the former Swedish Prime Minister, called the Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security Issues.

The aim of the commission, of which Mr. Palme is chairman, is to lobby the world on arms control in the same way that the Brandt Commission has focused attention on North-South relations.

Mr. Cyril Vance, the former American Secretary of State, who is also a commission member, arrived in Moscow this afternoon. It is his first visit here since he came to Moscow in April, 1978, to negotiate the Salt-2 agreement limiting strategic arms.

A strong commitment to the Salt process is one of the main planks of the commission's policy. Its members also call for urgent negotiations on European theatre missiles, which they say should begin without preconditions, in a positive atmosphere, and with respect for equal security for both sides.

US baseball season in jeopardy

From Our Own Correspondent, New York, June 11

The American baseball season, with about a quarter of the scheduled games played, may end abruptly tomorrow if the players carry out their threat to go on strike.

A judge refused yesterday to grant the players an injunction which would have prevented the team owners from introducing a scheme to limit the right of freedom of movement between clubs.

The owners want to put the lid on burgeoning salaries—one player with the New York Yankees earns \$1,400,000 (about £700,000) a year, by restricting the rule allowing players to become free agents after six years with one club.

The free agent system was introduced in 1975 and enables players to bargain for better services. Before then they had been tied to their original team. Under the owners' plan, teams hiring free agents would be forced to give the player a contract of roughly equivalent standing, although the clubs would be allowed to reserve their top players to themselves. Players fear this would dampen the agent market and cut salaries.

Talks were continuing today in an effort to avert the strike. In 1972, the first national baseball strike lapsed 13 days from the start of the season. Last year the players struck during pre-season training.



Ingrid Bergman, the actress, during a screen test for the part of Mrs. Golda, Meir, in "A Woman Called Golda".

Rescuers drill tunnel to reach trapped boy

Frascati, Italy, June 11.—The mother of a six-year-old boy trapped in a well shaft 118ft down today waited anxiously at the top as rescue workers drilled urgently to reach him.

Alfredo Rampi fell into the well last night and was trapped at a point where the shaft narrowed to about 10in diameter.

Rescuers were digging a parallel shaft down 130ft, then boring a horizontal tunnel to a point just below where the boy was trapped. They said the boy, who suffers from a heart ailment, was relatively well but crying a lot and complaining of hunger. Efforts to lower food and water were stopped after soft earth near the top of the well threatened to cave in. They were able to lower a plastic tube to pump fresh oxygen to the boy.

The boy's mother, Francesca, and his father, Ferdinando, stayed nearby during the day talking to their son through a megaphone. The boy, at times calm and at times breaking into sobs, replied that he was all right except for an injured leg and arm.

Dr Evesio Fava, who leads the medical team, said it was a race against the clock. "The boy is okay now. He is holding up well, but he has a heart condition and that could cause trouble at any time." A psychologist is advising the rescue team on ways to keep the boy calm.

Drilling the rescue shaft about 10ft from the well does not pose a danger of causing a land collapse on the boy because the ground in the area was hard-packed.—UPI

IN BRIEF

Scientists hunt dinosaur

Los Angeles, June 11.—Two United States scientists plan to go on an expedition deep into the jungles of the Congo Republic to try to find a living species of the dinosaur they believe to have escaped extinction 16 million years ago.

A leader of the privately funded expedition will be Professor Roy Mackal, who last year spent a month in Congo where members of pygmy tribes described to him a brownish, grey creature with short, thick legs that weighed perhaps 9 to 15 tons, and measured about 35ft.

Premier wins vote

Brussels, June 11.—Mr. Mark Eyskens, the Belgian Prime Minister today won a parliamentary vote of confidence which he sought after differences in his centre-left coalition Government.

Siamese twins die

Chicago, June 11.—Siamese twins, who were born joined at the skull 18 months ago, have died during an attempt to separate them at a hospital in Chicago.

Obituary notices for the twins, who were known as Conjoined Twins, were published because of uncontrollable hemorrhaging.

Held without trial

Johannesburg, June 11.—About 154 people are being detained without trial in South Africa and another 161 are subject to banning (restriction) orders, the South African Institute of Race Relations said today.

Stewardess drowns

Zeebrugge, June 11.—Pamela Whitehouse, aged 52 from Folkestone, British ferry stewardess, fell overboard and was drowned yesterday as her ship was about to dock.

Priest to be deported

Manila, June 11.—The Philippines Government today ordered the deportation of Father Edward David Shilleto, a British Roman Catholic priest for alleged "subversion".

Metro deaths

Moscow, June 11.—At least seven people died in a fire that erupted at an underground railway station here yesterday, eyewitnesses said.

Chinese launch farm revolution

From David Bonavia, Peking, June 11

Continuing anxiety about crops starved of rain in northern China coincides with moves by the Communist Party to change the basis of the Chinese diet and fundamentally reorganize the rural communes.

A spokesman for the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization has said China's demand for imported grain will become a serious world problem if it continues to rise at the present rate. China has been importing between three million and 10 million tonnes of grain annually, mainly wheat and maize, over the past few years, the big fluctuations being explained by vagaries of the weather.

The drought which caused a serious shortfall in the national harvest last year, persists in areas of southern and south-eastern Hebei province, surrounding Peking.

The province's wheat crops, covering more than six million acres, will be poor if more rain does not fall soon, though in well-irrigated parts the wheat is growing well.

Flooding, which brought havoc in central China last year, is also thought likely to recur, especially in the Yellow River basin in Hunan province. Upwards of 20 million people risk famine again this year if the weather is unfavourable.

The Communist Party's plan to counteract the bad weather and other farming difficulties is not based simply on conserving water more effectively.

The whole organization of the people's communes—units numbering from a few thousand up to 20,000 or more people—is being changed to permit the peasants greater initiative in the interests of enriching themselves and improving food supplies to the state, the city dwellers and the armed forces.

More and more communes across the country are encouraging peasant families to sign individual contracts for their deliveries of grain and other products, thus encouraging them to work harder, out of self-interest.

The first casualty in this change of policy is the system of work-points which Mao Tse-tung's concept of the people's communes was founded in 1958.

Instead of being graded according to their strength and enthusiasm, their pay according to the number of hours spent working communal lands, peasants who sign delivery contracts with commune organs will now be permitted to sell or retain all surpluses.

Economic planning is being personalized. The peasants will be assigned portions of communally-owned land to work with communally-owned implements. Their earnings will depend exactly on their work, the first principle of Marxist socialism.

This system, it is hoped, will end time-wasting paperwork and individual squabbles connected with the post-harvest share-out of grain and other basic products practised under Mao's system.

The new policy is a streamlined version of one put into practice after the end of the disastrous Great Leap Forward, which by 1964 had beggared the peasants and brought about widespread starvation.

It was designed by the late Liu Shaoqi, former head of state and Mao's arch-enemy, and by Mr. Deng Xiaoping, who is today Vice-Chairman of the party and the leading policy maker.

Huge increases in production have been claimed by rural areas practising the contract system (though observers have heard a lot of tales of such boasts), and it will probably become standard throughout China within a year or two.

Under this policy, the communes and subsidiary organs become no more than units of local government, education, health care and so on, with little say in the work or incomes of the peasants.

The other policy change being pushed just now is to remove from grain production those parts of upland, forest, steppe, or water-logged areas, laboriously reclaimed by Mao's insistence to grow wheat, maize and other crops which could never flourish there.

The catchphrase of the moment is "Greater Grain" meaning food supplies as a whole. However, it will take long and patient work to persuade the Chinese, and especially the peasants, that a diet based more on meat, fish, eggs, fruit and other nutritious foods can ever be satisfying without a huge bowl of rice or a pile of steamed bread.

Crucial time for rebel Cambodian groups

From David Watts
Singapore, June 11

Neither side would comment on what was discussed at the dinner session held in the state rooms of Cape Town castle last night. One of Mr Clark's aides

□ Mr. R. F. Botha said: "We are having substantive talks on the things we discussed in Washington. We are now trying to find a way out of the impasse." He added that the breakfast talks were constructive.—AF.

as alienated the organization from any form of mass support. "Under the new situation in the world, it is important to unify all anti-imperialist forces and consolidate the movement to build a bigger base", the letter states.

Measures to help mothers have been announced, ranging from higher family allowances and lump payments for the first and second child, the guarantee

Mr Smirnov said that ethnic Russians formed 55 per cent of the Soviet population, and the rate was falling. But he would not predict when the Russians would become a minority in

Debut of the test-tube calf

Yes, this is the first test-tube calf born in the world." The baby bull was born on Tuesday. Fertilization actually occurred in a small tissue-

Dr Waldheim was speaking after talks about Cambodia with Chinese leaders in Peking. Vietnam has refused to take part in the conference, which

The fact that the Reagan Administration is prepared to consider the sale of arms to a communist country represents a marked change of tack from the pro-Taiwan course followed by Mr Reagan during last year's election campaign.

This change has been brought about by the fact that the Hill led by Senator Jesse Helms, the influential conservative Republican. This lobby, which was largely responsible for President Reagan's campaign pledge to raise the level of American relations with Taiwan, is suspicious of any attempt to move closer to Peking.

...movement close to
Aspalan, Turkey's
Action Party, had
giving his passport to
Agca, police said. Mr. Agca
used the passport to enter
Germany undetected after
escape from a Turkish jail.
Agence France-Presse.


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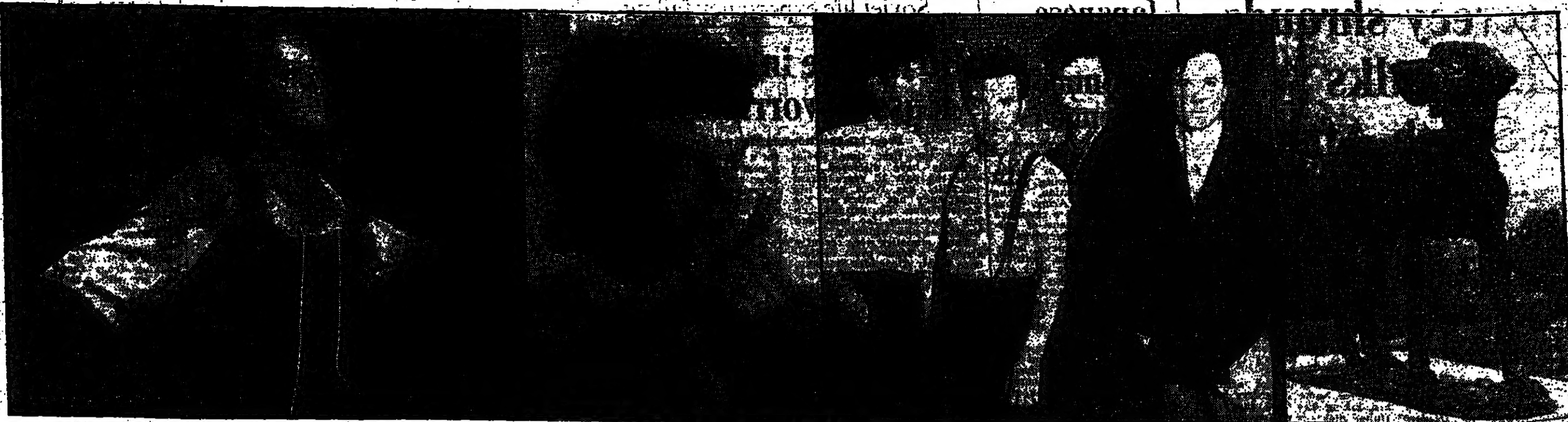
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The Swire Group 



CATHAY PACIFIC



Katia Ricciarelli in the title role of "Luisa Miller"

Gordon John Sinclair: "Gregory's Girl" star

Ultravox: Eurocentric synthesizer music

Elizabeth Frink's bronze "Turning Dog"

The Times critics' guide to the week's entertainment

Our regular critics provide a short list of recommended entertainments, outings and reading for the coming week

Theatre

Irving Wardle

Goose Pimples: A clean sweep of the downtown consumer population, in the form of a ghastly dinner party for car salesmen and a non-English speaking Saudi (Anthony Sher) who mistakes the venue for a brothel. As improvised by Mike Leigh's company, the piece may arouse inverse subliminal reactions, but you cannot argue against acting as good as this. (Garrick, 836 4601)

Cats: Scrimshanks, Growlitzer, and other famed felines from T.S. Eliot's collection, released into a cats' adventure playground for a night out involving every theatrical skill from blues-singing and conjuring to Chinese opera. Trevor Nunn and Andrew Lloyd Webber have failed in their attempt to devise a story line, but the stage effects and dance are terrific. (New London, 405 0072)

Britannicus: A gallant near-success in anglicizing Racine's political masterpiece, with a ferocious central battle between Jonathan Kent's Nero and Siobhan McKenna as his equally blood-glutted mother. Some of the modern detail grates, but this is a worthy successor to the director, Christopher Fettes, acclaimed for *Phaedra*. (Lyric Studio, Hammersmith, 741 2311)

Serjeant Musgrave's Dance: Painfully well-timed revival of John Arden's fable of colonial warfare. A good company, led by John Thaw, and Peter Hartwell's superb designs throw the play's narrative strength and poetic weakness into illuminating relief. (Cottesloe, 828 2252)

Nicholas Nickleby: The Royal Shakespeare Company's epic affirmation of the supposedly defunct British script. A festive convergence of theatre skills, including a script (David Edgar) that raises the craft of adaptation level with that of original composition, and the best acting now to be seen in England. Sold out, but a few returned tickets may be available from the box office. (Aldwych, 836 5332)

Having a Ball: London's first taste of the rudely robust repertoire of the Oldham Coliseum. Alan Hinesdale's wacky farce does not open the gap from potency gaps to nuclear doomwatching, but the jokes are good and so are the cast, with notably high-pressure performances from Philip Donaghy and Julie Walters. (Lyric Studio, Hammersmith, 741 8834)

Waiting for Godot: Another fine transfer from the Manchester Theatre. A searchingly articulate production by Braham Murray framing the comic partnership of Max Wall and Trevor Peacock, who achieve the funniest Beckett performance yet seen in London or probably anywhere else. (Round House, Chalk Farm, 267 2564)

Fringe/Ned Chaillet: Metaphysics and Strip: Andrew Dalkmeyer always purveys an eccentric blend of comedy. His

present late-night offering at New End was a salutary boost to a recent Edinburgh Festival, pitting drool philosophy against the distractions of a striptease. His quirky humour can be more seductive than the strip. All next week at 10.30 pm. Theatre at New End, Hampstead, London NW3 (794 0236)

The Worlds: Edward Bond's play received some acclaim in its student premiere in Newcastle a while back, but the piece was barred from its London opening with the Royal Court's young people's company. There will be a chance to say something about the professional production next week. New Half Moon, Mile End Road, London E1 (790 4000)

These Men: Mayo Simon offers a male-eye view of two sexy women sharing a day in Los Angeles house. He is not kind to mankind, but provides rich parts for two excellent actresses who nearly learn how to do without men. Bush Theatre, Shepherd's Bush Green, London W12 (743 3388)

Passing Through: The play which won first prize in the 1980 London Play Awards, sponsored by Capital Radio and the Greater London Arts Association, receives its first production by the Six of One Company at the Upstream Theatre. John Petherbridge

Max Wall: still waiting for Godot
writes about an invented London refuge for battered women, after three years of working in real refuges. Until June 27, Upstream Theatre Club, Short Street, Waterloo, London SE1 (928 5394)

Booking opens...
The National Theatre
Postcard booking for July opens on June 20. Personal booking from July 25.
Officer: The Shoemakers' Holiday by Thomas Dekker. A Month in the Country by Ivan Turgenev. Man and Superman by G.B. Shaw. The Life of Galileo by B. Brecht. **Lyric Studio:** The Affair of Virginia Woolf by E. Albee. **The Caretaker** by Harold Pinter. Measure for Measure. **Cottesloe:** One Woman Plays by Dario Fo and Franca Rame. Don Juan by Molière.

Ballet
John Percival
Coliseum: This weekend is the Stuttgart Ballet's last programme. It includes a Cranko ballet never seen here before, *Presence*, and another work new to London, *Ilia*. Kylian's *Return to the Struggle* and the last of Stuttgart's last New York season, also Glen Teley's *Rite of Spring* with Richard Cragun (June 12, 13) and Christopher Bourgeois (June 13-matinee) in the lead.

The Nureyev Festival opens at the Coliseum on Monday with Nureyev dancing every performance. For the first week, he appears in Festival Ballet's *Giselle*, probably with at least two ballerinas alternating in the title part, Evia Erdokimova and Evelyn Desautels. (836 3161)

Sadler's Wells: Merce Cunningham's marvelous troupe of dancers, in a repertoire combining fascinating choreography, avant garde music and fine design, are in London for one more week only. If you want to know what modern dance can show at its best, don't miss them. (837 1672)

Riverside: If you already know modern dance and want an original, intelligent and entertaining treatment of it, David Gordon's *Pick-Up Company* is for you—but they end on Sunday, so hurry. (748 3854)

Almeida: Something also off the beaten track. The German dancer-choreographer Reinhild Hoffman dances a solo evening at the new Almeida Theatre, 1 Almeida Street, Islington (June 15-17). Her *Solo with Sofa* is extraordinary. (359 4404)

The Big Top, Cambridge: Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet leaves Covent Garden (you can still catch a couple till tonight, or an interesting young cast in *Two Pigeons* tomorrow afternoon) to open a three-week season in their specially adapted circus tent, erected on Jesus Green. Its splendid big stage will house two programmes each week, starting with David Bintley's *Polonia* and Peter Wright's *Giselle* (June 15-17); then *Les Sylphides*, *Checkmate* and *Day into Night* (June 18-20). (0223 316313)

Opera

John Higgins

Aldeburgh: The festival opens tonight with a new production by Christopher Renshaw of Benjamin Britten's *The Prodigal Son*, using the original sets by Colin Graham. The cast includes Kenneth Bowen and Thomas Hemsley. For other festival performances see Concerts. (072 885 2935)

Covent Garden: *Madam Butterfly* returns to the repertoire with a cast of principals entirely new to the opera in London. Raina Kabaivanska sings the title role; Dennis O'Neill, a fine Alfredo in Spanish Opera's *Turquoise* earlier in the year, is the Pinkerton; and Leo Nucci, Sharpless. Nucci has a busy week; he is also in the performances of *Luisa Miller*, in which Jose Carreras takes over the role of Rodolfo from Carlo Bergonzi. (240 1066)

English National Opera: Leeds: There is a new production by Steven Fmlott of *Wolf* by Thomas Dekker tomorrow night, with Sally Burgess as Agathe and Robert Ferguson as Max. It plays in repertory next week with *Don Giovanni* and *The Barber of Seville*. Thereafter ENO move off to Oxford. (0532 439351)

Glyndebourne: *The Barber and the Nozze di Figaro* continue to run in repertory with the original casts, but Eliza Howarth is now sharing the conducting of Rossini's comic opera with Sylvia Crambling. (0223 812411)

Concerts

William Mann

Aldeburgh Festival begins today and runs until June 28, with a full schedule every day. Among particularly attractive concerts during the coming week are tomorrow afternoon's recital at Orford Church by Orford Street Quartet who come, however, from Orford in Canada, sent by the Canadian Aldeburgh Foundation to the Suffolk festival founded 33 years ago by Benjamin Britten. They will play Haydn, Beethoven and the exquisitely beautiful quartet by Ludovico.

On Sunday evening, at Snape Maltings, the concert by Geoffrey Parsons, singing Schubert, Wolf, Strauss and, especially apt for this Romanian soprano's artistry, Debussy's *Ariettes oubliées*. On Monday at Snape, Murray Perahia plays two Mozart piano concertos, K271 and K593, with the ECO, who complete the programme with the E flat Wind Serenade K375.

There are two eighteenth birthday tributes next week in Aldeburgh's Jubilee Hall, on Wednesday evening to Aaron Copland (a piano recital by Leo Smit), on Thursday at noon to Alan Bush who himself takes part as pianist in his own works, which include a new concerto piano obbligato as well as a concerto for piano and orchestra. Murray Perahia plays Mozart's piano part, and is also soloist in the biggest Mozart piano concerto, K503 in C (see Aldeburgh above).

On Sunday evening, in Ranger's House, the Delme

Quarter give the first four recitals devoted to string quartets by Haydn, Mozart and Robert Simpson—enterprising choice.

On Thursday in Egham Palace the Irish mezzo Bernadette Greedy begins her recital with Handel and ends with a generous anthology of songs from her homeland (854 8888, extension 2314).

Central London: Seiji Ozawa conducts the Philharmonia Orchestra twice: on Tuesday (RFR, 928 3181) Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet*, plus Prokofiev's third piano concerto with soloist Ivo Pogorelich, copiously discussed newcomer from Yugoslavia. On Thursday (RFR) Garrick Ohlsson plays Beethoven's third piano concerto, and Ozawa conducts Berlioz's *Fantastic Symphony*.

Andre Previn twice conducts the LSO (RFR), on Sunday in a delectable all-Ravel programme: on Thursday in Strauss's magnificent *Don Quixote*, and on Saturday in the first cello concerto with Yo Yo Ma, plus more Ravel.

Jazz/Rock

Richard Williams

Tete Montoliu/Ernestine Anderson: A blind Catalan who served a long apprenticeship behind various touring American stars, Montoliu plays piano like the perfect cross between Art Tatum and Bud Powell, but with Erroll Garner's joie de vivre in place of Powell's tragedy. Miss Anderson centres through the songs that cater-chub music is like to be, in the open air, June 13, 12.15 and 15.15, Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Fridge Street, London W1 439 0747.

Stan Tracey/Keith Tippett: Tracey's quartet is familiar enough, its only imperishable being the form of its drummer, the pianist's son, who is prone to overemphasize Tippett's percussionist, is an unknown quantity, but an exciting prospect. (June 12, 100 Club, 100 Oxford Street, London W1 636 0933)

Ultravox/Madness: Easier to imagine the effervescent Madness succeeding at this Festival Palace Garden Party than to arrive to Ultravox transmitting their pale-faced Eurocentric synthesizer music across the lake to bare-chested fans in broad daylight. Other groups include Temples and Our Daughter's Wedding, the latter an experimental trio of electronic technicians from New York. (June 13, 1 pm-8 pm, Crystal Palace Bowl, London SE19)

Defunkt: This fashionable New York garage band, fronted by the prodigious trombone of

Joseph Bowie, brother of the Art Ensemble of Chicago's Lester Bowie, their recent debut LP seemed to concentrate on a scathing irony in both lyrics and delivery, sometimes at the expense of actual musical ideas, but their live performances are said to be riotous. (June 13, The Venue, 160-162 Victoria Street, London SW1 828 9441/2/3)

UB40/Toots and the Maytals: Gang of Four: Two young rock bands firmly linked (but in very different ways) with reggae meet Toots Hibbert, one of the finest Jamaican singers, in the open air, June 13, 2 pm-10 pm, Walsall Football Club, Fellows Park, Walsall. Toots and the Maytals also appear on June 17 and 18 at the Venue, 160-162 Victoria Street, London SW1 828 9441/2/3.

The Sound: Just about the most thoughtful of the recent crop of British post-punk rockers, The Sound have the perfect anthem for the revived CND movement in Adrian Borland's "Missiles" and a classic rock song regardless of category in "Heartland". (June 14, Heaven, The Arches, Villiers Street, London WC2 539 3852)

Kraftwerk: On the evidence of their new album, *Computer World*, the inventors of electronic dance-rock are still as good as yesterday's experts. (June 15, 8 pm, Glasgow, 0431-332 6028). June 17 and 18, Playhouse, Edinburgh (851-557 2590).

Booking opens...
Randy Crawford: Since her cameo appearance on the *Crossroads* Street Life, Miss Crawford has proved herself the most gifted female soul singer to appear in many years. Her show now takes place in the Odeon, Birmingham (July 2), the Dome, Brighton (July 3), Colston Hall, Bristol (4), Fairfield Hall, Croydon (5), Apollo, Manchester (7), and the Dominion, London (8 and 9).

Films
David Robinson
Kagemusha: Kurosawa's epic has to be seen, but try to catch it at a cinema where the projection and sound facilities are as good as the film's spectacle deserves. The sixteenth century tale of a criminal who becomes the warrior's official double and assumes his master's nobility of soul as well as the physical likeness, rises to tragic grandeur. (Gate Mayfair, 493 Oxford Street, London W1 7 0000, selective release)

The Long Good Friday: John Mackenzie's sharp and finely acted thriller, owing much to

Barry Keefe's admirable script, is one of the periodic gleams of hope in British films. Bob Hoskins's London gang boss, whose ideal capitalist criminal organization is suddenly threatened by unknown but lethal enemies, is a fine character creation. (Plaza, 437 1234)

Less: With extraordinary agreement inhibiting his entry to Britain, Roman Polanski made a virtue of necessity, using the landscape of Brittany to create an ideal Wessex. The best attempt yet at Hardy's tragically fatalistic world, the film has an intelligent script and good cast. (Empire, 437 1234)

The Europeans: Revival of James Ivory's elegant and somewhat over-the-top comedy, revived by Kenneth Branagh. In the interesting cast are Lee Remick, Robin Ellis and Tim Woodward.

Gregory's Girl: The funniest film in London: Bill Forsyth's genial picture of the pains, preoccupations and loopy pleasures of adolescence. A huge comic talent comes together with an irresistible young cast. (Screen on the Green, Islington, 226 3320; Ritz, Brixton, 737 2121)

Napoleon: Tomorrow is one of the few out-of-town dates for Abel Gance's restored epic—without Carl Dreyer's orchestral accompaniment, alas, but with a brave piano marionette by Andrew Yonckell. (Theatre Croyd, Mold, Croyd, 0352 55114)

That Sinking Feeling: This would be the funniest film in London if Gregory's Girl were not. Bill Forsyth's marvellous young Glasgow comedians play the (in some cases real-life) roles of young unemployed who meet the epic—without Carl Dreyer's orchestral accompaniment, alas, but with a brave piano marionette by Andrew Yonckell. (Theatre Croyd, Mold, Croyd, 0352 55114)

Last chances
Louis Malle's sweet-sour *Atlantic City* (Cinema, 499 3737), Andrei Konchalovsky's mesmerizing *Stalker* (Academy Two, 437 2581) and Andrei Vajda's *Rough Treatment* (Camden Place, 485 2443) close on Wednesday.

The Long Good Friday: John Mackenzie's sharp and finely acted thriller, owing much to

Booking opens...
National Film Theatre
Personal booking for July opens on Thursday. The programme features Anthony Asquith, Blake Edwards, Yusef Khomeini, Angelopoulos, Manuel de Oliveira, Hollywood in the Mirror, Enterprise Studios and Rag Harryhausen.

21st Summer Show: Almost inevitably, the Academy mixture as before. Abstract art not up to much, though they seem to be trying; elsewhere, cheery and colourful, with the usual famous Academicians doing (often finely) what made them famous in the first place. Certainly well up to standard. (Royal Academy, Piccadilly)

Anthony Caro: Bronzes from the past five years show no distinction of material rigour in the deployment of heavy metal, though the specific metal used does have a slightly more welcoming effect than the steel. Caro ordinarily used to work in a rather surprising show to find in the eighteenth century purities of Keatswood, but the contrast is quite effective. (Fraghe Bequest, Keatswood)

A Salute to Marcel Boulestin and Jean-Paul Laurens: Loving tribute to the good old days of the Restaurant Boulestin, and its creator's role as a patron of (then) modern art. Paintings by Marie Laurens, fabrics by Dufy and Duncan Grant, and particularly a fine range of graphics, paintings and drawings by Boulestin, including some of the murals now, sadly, dismantled. (Piering Gallery, 11 Motcomb Street, London, SW1)

A Salute to the Music of Time: Braxton's adaptation of Anthony Powell's cycle, we begin now with The Valley of the Bones. Braxton's treatment of the first three novels captured very nicely the style and atmosphere of the originals; there's good reason to expect that he will do it again. (Radio 4, June 14 at 9.02 pm. Repeated June 16 at 3.02 pm and weekly thereafter)

Other People's Radio: The first of four weekly 15-minute documentaries, uncommon because they feature radio looking at itself, or more precisely what other people get out of their loudspeakers. Libby Purves leads off this week with a selection of the world's early morning radio. No doubt the hope is that we shall end up daily thanking her for what we receive, but there should be some amusement on the way. (Radio 4, June 16 at 4 pm and weekly)

Books
Philip Howard
Published this week
Charles Charming's Challenges on the Pathway to the Throne by Clive James with illustrations by Marc (Cape, £4.95): Readers of The Times have seen extracts from Clive James's royal comic in rhyming couplets. Alexander Pope he is not, having no ear for prosody, but about every 10 lines there is a Clive James line that is not quite often enough. No need to commend the sharpness of Marc's cartoons to you, dear readers.

Monty: The Making of a General, 1897-1942 by Nigel Hamilton (Hamish Hamilton, £12): Massive official biography of Britain's most successful and most difficult general this century, based on the great mass of Monty's private papers. In the Books Page of The Times yesterday Ronald Lewin, our military reviewer and author himself of authoritative books about both Montgomery and Rommel, judged it to be the most accurate, the most explicit, and by far the most illuminating of books about Monty.

The Queen Mother by Elizabeth Longford (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £7.95): Informal biography of the most popular Queen consort in our history by our surrogate Queen Mother of literature. In The Times yesterday, the lives of colonial women are revealed in their own words, their hard lives of poverty and the death of children, their place in society, and their emergence into public life.

Russia Perceived: A Trans-Siberian Journey by Elizabeth Pond (Gollancz, £9.95): From the spot where Vronsky met Anna Karenina, the author (a correspondent for the Christian Science Monitor) sets off across Russia by train, sharing with three Russians (grandmother, mother and daughter), mixing an account of the journey with her own observations of the people, their history and literature.

Events
Barnes Book Bonanza: At Barnesley Town Hall tonight Sir Roy Shaw, Secretary, General of the Arts Council, will announce the winners of this year's Yorkshire Arts Literary Awards, which are given every two years to focus attention on the best creative work about Yorkshire, or by authors who live and work in the region. Previous winners include Philip Larkin, Pamela Haines, Barry Collier, and R.C. Scriven.

Antique Toy, Dolls and Miniatures Fair: More dolls for little girls and collector parents (take the cheque book) at the Vintners Hotel, Bloomsbury Street, London, WC1, on June 14. Open 11 am-5 pm, admission 75p adults, 50p children.

Merton Steam Rally: Fairground organs, steamrollers and rides for children at Wandale Park, Ryegate Road, London SW19. Free entry, atmosphere, refreshments, bar. June 13 and 14, 11 am-5 pm.

The Poly Marathon: The oldest of the British marathon races (the first took place in 1908) starts in Long Walk, in the grounds of Windsor Castle, and finishes at the Windsor Athletic Club ground, near Vauxhall Road. The 600 or so competitors will set off at 2.15 pm, and the first runners are expected as the finishing line about two hours and 15 minutes later, its location has given the Poly its reputation as an enjoyable event for spectators. June 13.

Museum of Childhood: For small boys and girls who love cutting out and an exhibition of paper toys and models opens on June 17. It looks back as far as the early nineteenth century, when hand-printed cut-outs were first used, and

the exhibits include cut-out dolls and clothes, model trains, planes, cars and paper theatres. Pretty and inspirational for inevitable rainy days. Cambridge Heath Road, London, E2 9BA 2415. Closed Fridays.

Chia-Chia: crowd-puller back at London Zoo

Royal College of Art Degree Show: A chance for tomorrow's aspiring designers, illustrators, photographers and their parents to see what the cream of today's graduates have achieved. Open today and until June 21, weekdays 10 am-7 pm, weekends 10 am-6 pm. Admission free. RCA, Kensington Gore, London, SW7.

Early Summer Flower Show: Specialist nurseries—not your average garden centre—display stock and take orders. There are competitions, and RHS staff will tell you why your hedge died and your clematis is wilting (take samples). Children of non-destructive nature welcome. June 15, 11 am-6 pm, June 17, 10 am-5 pm. Royal Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, London, SW1.

Sheffield Craftsman's Fair: If it lives up to its programme and reputation, this will be one of the most fascinating fairs of the year. Among the craftsmen at work every day are spinners, weavers, glass-blowers, puppet makers and model soldier makers, potters, woodcarvers, silver and black smiths: one of only three hand-craft-makers in Britain and a

couple making corn dollies (next time, Hsing-Hsing). Lots of music and dancing displays—Caribbean, clog, sword—and afternoon entertainment including Punch and Judy shows and roundabouts, geared to and mostly performed by children. Open sensibly late from 1 pm to 10 pm on weekdays, and from 10 am to 10 pm at weekends, the fair starts tomorrow and lasts until June 21 at the Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet on the A612. Admission 80p for adults, 40p for children.

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Theatre Satire straddling the royal target

Charles Charming's
Challenges

Apollo

Taking its place among the Hongkong washing-up towels and imitation leather footstools bearing portraits of the happy pair, Clive James's epic tribute to the British royal family (portrayed on a large-handled coffee-mug on the programme cover) is much the most curious piece of royal dracology that has come my way, and it is a shame that its three performers cannot be stored away in formaldehyde to be auctioned for a tidy sum when their value has appreciated.

Judging by the amount of prepubescence the piece has attracted, no doubt the Apollo show will clean up quite respectably without the help of posterity; though why anyone should bother is a part of the general mystery surrounding the British monarchy.

Charles Charming is the third of Mr James's verse satires on the London scene: mock-heroic chronicles in rhymed couplets that follow their Augustan model to the length of italicizing proper names, if not to printing "s's" as "ss". Amachronism, I suppose, is part of the gag; and, as in Pope's time, there is still the pleasure of delivering personal bitchery and narrative knockabout under cover of a politely civilized form.

And Mr James knows his way around the form. He is good on conceptual classier ("royal plural" and "epidural"), on combinations of epic and conversational speech, and in securing the maximum tonal variety within the rigid shell of the metre.

But if he has chosen this instrument as a means of making fun of a small section of London society, what an earth is Charles Charming all about. The handout neatly sums up the contradiction by describing it as a piece of satirical verse in honour of a royal event. In the space of 10 books, Mr James has to make the monarch out of all who have nurtured, educated, flattered, flattered and goggled at the Prince of Wales, while the object of all these attentions remains untouchably taboo. The picture that comes

across is that he has been constantly surrounded by protocol-fools who have pushed him through a farcically unsuitable royal obstacle course, from which he has nevertheless emerged as a good chap.

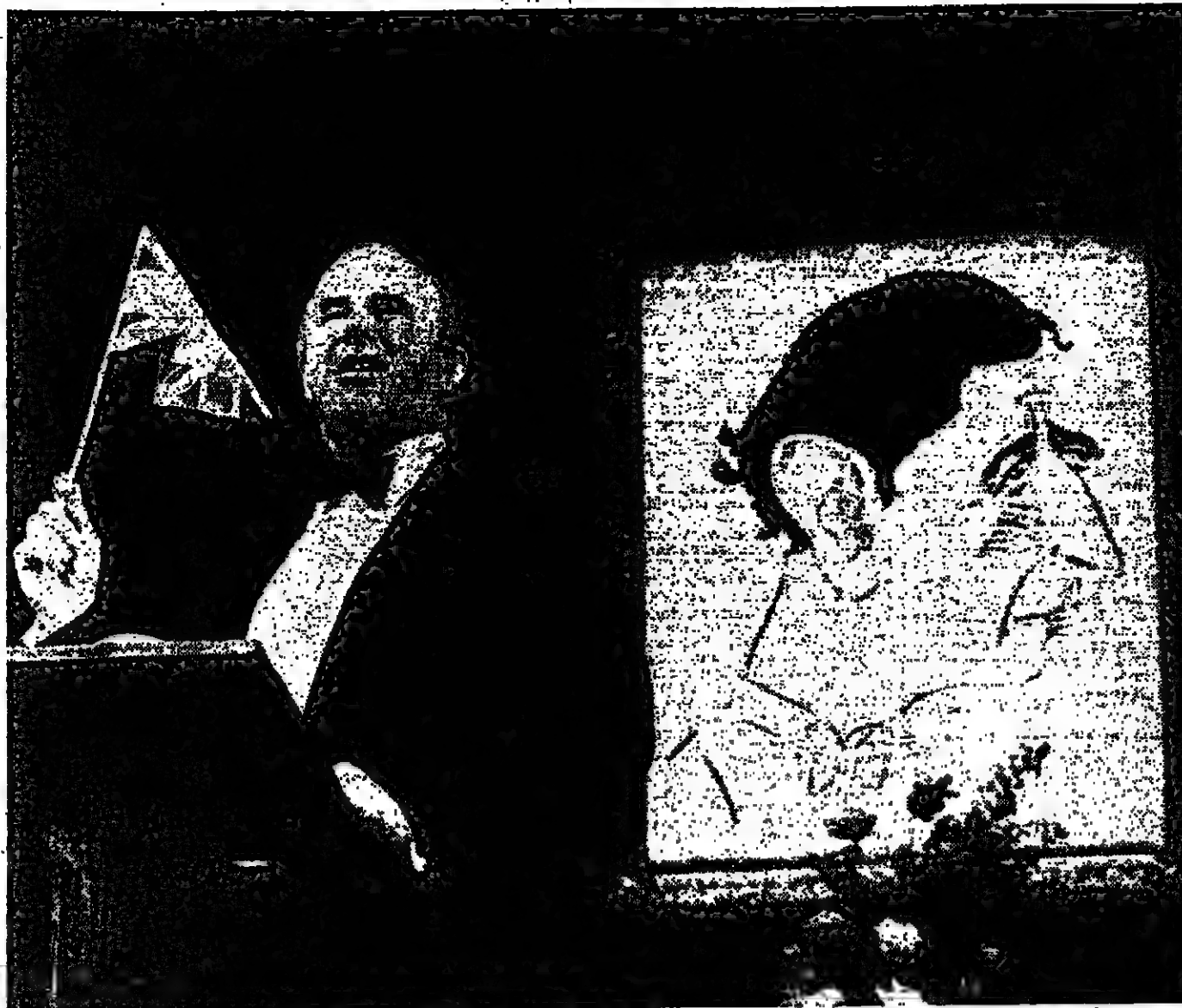
At the Apollo, this unlikely tale is presented in a portrait gallery setting with lecterns for the three readers, Russell Davies and Pamela Stephenson to right and left, with the author on a raised dais in the centre in the likeness of a well-fed auctioneer. Agile as he most certainly is on paper, Mr James is a monotonous reader, and as the evening continues it becomes quite hard to fix your attention on the sense of the lines. He is apt to pause and give heavy emphasis on joke names; some of which are quite funny.

The story Mr James has to tell is an undisciplined mixture of things that did happen and things he would have liked to happen. It is one thing to get comic mileage out of the Spartan regime of Gordoustan and Timbertop, and another to break up an investiture party with the equestrian arrival of Princess Anne failing to get her mount over the soup tureen.

There remain Mr James's partners, both extremely skilled performers. We first hear them in prerecorded spoof extracts from the Australian phone calls, with interruptions from the tape-changing operator. After which they launch into a series of impersonations that really light the show up; even though they have rarely more than two or three lines to get the needle in the next victim. Miss Stephenson, regally coiffured with a protocol-defying slit in her brocade skirt, has a good go at the Queen, and a more delicate utterance, though, as the Prime Minister she falls far short of Angela Thorne at the Whitehall.

Mr Davies, introducing every book with a different brass instrument, works through the cast list from Sir Cecil Beeline to Malcolm Mothermilk with a stunning command of mimicry, and a statement of the hero whose desperate inquiry to every passing stranger (including Birmingham Wood), "Have you come far?", leaves you with at least one joke worth remembering.

Irving Wardle



A mock-heroic Clive James in Charles Charming's Challenges

No End of Blame

Royal Court

Lampoons, caricatures and cartoons have long been the stuff of Howard Barker's playwriting. Nothing about his latest play should come as a surprise. Under his apparent subject, which is a fictionalized view of the political cartoonist Vicky, he is writing about the argument for the political potential of cartoons against the personal expression of art.

Like Vicky, Mr Barker uses the skills of an artist to make a harsh point, and he simplifies to the broad strokes of a cartoon to keep his point clear. Mr Barker aims for maximum impact in each scene, starting off with a caricature of the First World War battlefield.

shivering and posing for a conquering soldier, more a fear of rape than concerned with his drawing. The Vicky figure, a poetical Hungarian soldier, joins the artist and attempts the rape.

Even there, Mr Barker is subject to more ambiguity than Vicky ever could be. Actors colour the words he has written, impose personalities on his concepts, and Paul Freeman is immediately an appealing figure. His threat of rape is a philosophical response to a naked woman, neither aesthetic nor physical, and quickly turned into debate. What Mr Barker may have wanted perhaps a ruthless quality, is confused with the attractive personality of Mr Freeman.

That is not a bad thing. In terms of the character, Bela Verack, for he should offer

contradictions to his own actions. While all those about him are bold strokes of a propagandist, with no essential difference between the Soviet bureaucrats who complain about a cartoon of Lenin and the English bureaucrats who complain about a cartoon of Churchill, Bela constantly questions his own responses.

Leaving Hungary to join the Russian Revolution, he is opting for social change; leaving Russia for personal freedom, he turns to England. Finding that illusory he leaves towards love as the great truth, but his wife has been shot in Russia and his friend, the artist from the battlefield, turned to madness.

Mr Freeman, with impressive depth, makes Bela a stern enough creation to be shattered

by life, and flexible enough to find his anger again. Nicola Kent has crafted the cast with adept performers who can change characters often enough to see Bela into old age, and to do it with a delicacy that enriches Mr Barker's highly comic cartoons of people, to make some of them seem real for their brief moments.

Much of the play is intellectually rousing theatre, particularly when the company overcome the simplicities. The softening edges of Mr Barker's production are the human curves of emotion, and understanding. "They want to turn me into art because art doesn't hurt," laments Bela. No End of Blame is close enough to art to be pleasure.

Neil Chaillet

Television Nudging commentary in a sorry state

Hanging Fire: The
State of Israel

BBC 1

In this, the first of three programmes about Israel today, I felt most sympathy with the Jewish woman living in a town near Lebanon. A lot of your mental energy goes, she said, in just being alert for trouble — a plane going over, a helicopter suddenly appearing — even if, most times, nothing actually happens. I feel the same in the presence of debates on the Arab/Israeli problem; a great many arguments coming whizzing over from both sides and though most of them explode harmlessly it does drain one's mental energy. Everyone interviewed in the programme, whether Jewish settler about to be turned out of Sinai, Arab refugee, liberal Jew ("It is a fallacy that suffering enables people — it just makes them believe in a just cause") or blinkered Jew, was absolutely justified in his or her own eyes, even though the commentary tried to nudge us the right way, now and then. Mr Kent's own nudging went on, I felt. There is a style of television documentary fashionable at the moment which stops just this short of misdeeds, and uses enough sniping, selective quoting and clever shooting to quote the viewer, one way or the other.

Last night I had the feeling, rightly or wrongly, that inconsistencies in the Israeli position were being used to nudge me into vaguely anti-Israeli stance, with the result that far from being a floating voter I became vaguely pro-Israeli.

The film dwelt, for example, on the idiotic laws about the Sabbath. Jews are forbidden to write on the Sabbath, so hotel waiters have to memorize up to 250 orders, but the Rabbi has decided that it is all right to use a special pencil whose writing fades within 24 hours. Ridiculous, of course, yet, because the film wanted me to feel so, I found myself objecting to it. I am afraid, though, that I felt little of this coming through, even when it was being spelt out, only the feeling of some clever television being made. My heart sank when the film ended triumphantly with close-ups of a Jewish baby being born. I can reveal that next week's film ends with a circumcision. Look out for the end of the third film.

Miles Kingston

Silent Majority

ATV

Usually the fuss happens after transmission. This time the row came first because someone tried to stop the film being shown. The Independent Broadcasting Authority rightly backed it. So after reading paragraphs of newspaper about overstretched resources government policy to phase out health authorities asked to report... what a relief to see at last the reality of the living flesh and blood of people called Nicky and Douglas and Alfie.

After all that official verbosity what came across in the programme was the power of the individual spirits battling against their handicapped bodies to make their needs felt. The way their stories were told with discretion, sympathy, even admiration, for their fight against the system was commendable. It is worth pausing amid all the arguments to praise technical craft: careful research, patient camerawork, fine editing, unhysterical commentary. Nigel Evans led a

because it carried with it the threat of blame. Blame sticks to people, head authorities, medical staff, but most easily to politicians.

So over the last few days we have heard different voices from the Department of Health and Social Security saying that the film emphasized only one side of what happens at St Lawrence's Hospital and Boro-court. For all the world as if the side of the patients picking flowers or maybe eating chocolate cake might in some way make less terrible the fact of their being tied up, the fact of their being left to amuse themselves in caged compounds, the fact of their isolation in individual cells. There are some degrees of human suffering that are beyond such compensations.

Let it be said that the programme was a success. Staff were shown ways to be patient, sometimes saintly. "No praise is too high" for such people, Mr Patrick Jordan, a Secretary of State for Social Services, said in the news that followed. I thought he said "No price is too high". Well... no I did not.

Because that of course is the crux of the matter: the remedy is more money. But the system must change too. Big institutions add to the damage. The example of Beech Tree House must surely now be widely followed. This programme might hasten the day.

Joan Bakewell

Opera Enterprising première

Palestrina

Collegiate Theatre

Those operagoers who manage to afford a visit to the festivals of Bayreuth and Salzburg are well advised to spend a day or two en passant in Munich, where the Bavarian State Opera is en fête at the same time. There is usually an opera or two to be collected, works that are not in any British repertoire; one of them is Pfitzner's *Palestrina*, which has been zealously kept on occasional display in the Munich repertoire since its world premiere there, under Bruno Walter, in 1917.

People want to it, in the old days, to see and hear the title role played by Karl Erb, its creator, later Julius Fenzl, equally renowned in the part. Most of us came away also dazzled by the grave, ethereal beauty of the music in the first act, the purposeful dynamism of the scene at the Council of Trent.

After just such an occasion, an elderly cousin of mine expressed amazement that *Palestrina* had not been staged in England: "perfectly acceptable German Vaughan Williams" was his verdict — sweeping, perhaps. I thought the music more like proto-Hindemith, but agreed with my cousin.

Younger friends have been converted to *Palestrina* during the intervening years, some through a complete gramophone recording (available here as an import). But it has taken 64 years for it to reach the British stage, and we have the enterprising Abbey Opera to thank for the production to be seen in London this week.

The opera relates how the Council of Trent, under papal advice, wanted to ban polyphony from the Roman rite, and revert entirely to plainsong. The disputatious Council came

to no agreement, and one Cardinal Borromeo privately created the Pope's musical director, Palestrina, to compose a polyphonic setting of the Mass that would satisfy the Council and save living music for the church. Palestrina, aging and uncreative since his wife's death, demurred until angels dictated to him the famous *Missa Papae Marcelli*.

Abbey Opera's production, by Christopher de Souza, and arch-enemy, conducted with eminent sympathy by Antony Shelley, who has translated Pfitzner's libretto into clear (sometimes falsely stressed) English, is amazingly bold. The work needs a large stage for its first two acts. That of the Collegiate Theatre is quite modest, and *Palestrina* is just at its best by the angels and ghosts of his illustrious predecessors.

So it is too when the brawling servants, at the end of the second act, are ordered down by the Cardinal. Madrusch (an impressive portrayal by Mark Smullen), de Souza puts over, nevertheless, the spirit of Pfitzner's work, and its particular successful in individualising the many ecclesiastical participants in the Council.

Abbey Opera can field a large number of, at any rate, acceptable voices and actors for the big cast. Antony Shelley makes a telling job of Borromeo, without immensity of voice, and Graeme Matheson Bruce, often miscast as the dashing tenor, skilfully adapts his edgy voice to the sorrows and aspiration of the composer's part.

I am asked to point out that the *Almaviva*, in Guldahl's Opera's recent production of *Figaro*, was short. The opera, and the interpreter of the part whose performance I praised last week was Paul Napier-Burrows.

William Mann

When bigger is better

George Benson

Wembley Arena

By expanding his rhythm section to six musicians and by adding three horns and 30 strings, George Benson has ensured that his music is as loudly and as dramatically as possible, and he is able to cope with the sheer size of Wembley Arena, where he is appearing for five consecutive nights.

For once, this scaling-up operation works to everyone's benefit. Although the pretentious overture sounds like a desultory sound-check, the acoustics were speedily brought into focus. With the exception of Wembley's notorious elimination of bass frequencies, the difficult balance was thereafter maintained, allowing the lavish arrangements to make Benson seem a much more interesting musician than he really is.

His light, polite jazz-funk, at its finest on instrumental pieces like "Breezein", has recently been strengthened by an injection of substance in the form of Quincy Jones's arrangements and production, the songs born of this collabora-

tion, like Rod Temperton's "Give Me the Night" and "Love Times Love", are finely crafted examples of contemporary pop-soul, and were beautifully delivered on Wednesday night.

Benson's voice, which improves all the time, was strengthened by sultry murmurs of echo and double-tracking, and he now an acceptable cross between the bluesiness of B. B. King and the urbanity of Nat "King" Cole. His background in instrumental jazz also allows him to take modest but rewarding liberties with the vocal phrasing of songs like "Nature Boy" and "On Broad-

way". His guitar-playing is, in this context, another matter. Trying to play jazz over such inflexible backgrounds, however finely detailed they may be, simply does not work; his second guitar, the vintage Phil Uppchurch, comprehensively upstaged him on an early instrumental by producing a passage of convoluted, dramatic blues with just the right degree of rhetoric. Uppchurch's playing was always worth attention; the background figures, picked with the thumb, were exquisite.

Richard Williams



Uneasiness in the catacomb of *And Quiet Rolls the Dawn*

Classical unity accomplished

And Quiet Rolls the
Dawn (A)

Gate 1,
Notting Hill Gate

The Competition (A)

Columbia

By one of those coincidences that sometimes occur in art history, three outstanding filmmakers, more or less contemporaries, all began their careers in Calcutta, within a year or so of each other, in the 1950s. Two of them, Satyajit Ray and Mrinal Sen, had been born in the city. Ritwik Ghatak went there from Pakistan after the Partition.

Ray's standing as a major international filmmaker was assured from his first picture, *Pather Panchajali*, in 1955. Ghatak was a strange and wayward genius, whose career, bedevilled by drink and a despair which never left him after the events of the Partition, was short. Today it is almost impossible to see his singular and brilliant films because of inextricable tangles involving rights — the outcome, it is said, of unfavourable deals which he was inclined in his later years to negotiate late at night when trying to raise the money for a further bottle of whisky.

The third of the triumvirate, Mrinal Sen, began life as a traveller in medical supplies, but was stirred to make films by the experience of the first Calcutta Film Festival of 1957, as well as by a fervent Marxist humanism which has more or less overtly inspired all his work. Now in his mid-fifties, Sen is a highly appealing figure, lean, slightly stooped, never seen in any clothes but his Indian white cottons. He is a lively writer and an excellent (and a little himself add, unstoppable) talker, ranging from wry philosophy to gentle mischief. His polemics with Satyajit Ray are celebrated, and take up many pages of his own published writings.

Unlike Ray, whose career began on a peak which has remained a challenge to him throughout all his subsequent career, Sen's filmography reveals a steady progression, in which *And Quiet Rolls the*

Dawn stands logically as his most accomplished work to date.

It is essentially a chamber drama, observing a classical unity of time, place, and action, and based on the dramatic premise of a central figure whose absence throughout most of the story provides inherent suspense. The setting is a crumbling Calcutta building, a house which once was a gentleman's grand house, built in the year of the Mutiny. Now the balconies that overlook the inner courtyard swarm with tenant families, each invaded by the racket of their neighbours' domestic troubles. They are overlooked from the top floor by the eight-masted landlady, always worrying about people wasting water, or passers-by who importunately befoul his gutters.

The action centres on the respectable, down-at-heel, middle-class family on the ground floor. The father is a retired bureaucrat and parent of three daughters and two sons by his first and anxious wife. The film describes the events of a single night, when the eldest daughter, the sole breadwinner of the family in this overpopulated city, fails to return at her usual hour.

Uneasiness mounts to panic as the search extends to the police station, the hospitals, the morgue. The effort proves fruitless; but under the pressure of this crisis the outward semblance of domestic unity and calm crumbles like the old stucco that long ago fell away to expose the flimsy structure of the ancient house. "We are in the morgue, here in this house", accuses the beautiful young second daughter, who seems more clearly than the sons the effects of the family's selfish, possessive dependence upon the missing girl.

Subtly Sen's camera moves among the family and among the neighbours who are witnesses and chorus, though themselves — as — gravely threatened, in different ways, by the untoward happening. Each person in the house involuntarily exposes his own insufficiency. When the absent daughter returns cheerful and untroubled the following morning, she hardly recognizes the family she left the day before, and whose only resource now is to take revenge on the innocent cause of their unwished self-discovery.

In composition (Sen wrote his

own script), *mise-en-scène* (the airy, constant exploration of the oppressive catacomb-house) and performance, it is a highly sophisticated, accomplished and beautiful film. Sen is skilful at dramatising, whether building up suspense in a scene where a whole group of people, each looking for a missing person, watch a clock, or a scene of just discovered will prove to be their own lost one, or establishing the physical horror of the morgue just by the repeated grating of the door, or the way in which the corpses are stored.

So long as you recognize that *Schmalz* is *Schmalz*, even when tricked out with Prokofiev, Saint-Saëns and Chopin, *The Competition* is modestly entertaining, at its own level. Auditions, competitions and talent contests of every sort have suspense naturally built in, and — as every televisioner knows — international piano-forces contests have the same excitement as any other breed of sporting event.

The participants in this fictitious competition are all unfairly but dramatically handicapped. The Russian has the KGB on her back and a defecting teacher; a West Side boy is dogged by an Italian family and an ambition to be a new Liberator; an East Side coloured youth has too much money and an inclination to nudity at the keyboard. The heroine (Amy Irving) suffers from a virago, man-hating teacher (Lee Remick), and the hero (Richard Dreyfuss) has a stucco that long ago fell away to expose the flimsy structure of the ancient house. "We are in the morgue, here in this house", accuses the beautiful young second daughter, who seems more clearly than the sons the effects of the family's selfish, possessive dependence upon the missing girl.

The heart of the matter, as might be guessed, is how romance between Dreyfuss and Irving battles and conquers the obstacles of music, career and rivalry. As a writer Joel Oliansky knows all the twists; as a director, though he seems not much in control over the visual aspect of this somewhat inelegant film, he is quite good at catching the slight comic, gestured aside. Amy Irving is a bright, attractive actress; Sam Wanamaker suitably hams up the role of a ham conductor for precisely what it is worth; and an incidental curiosity of the film is that all the players were keyboard-coached so that they convincingly synchronize their performances to the tracks (insensitively abbreviated) pre-recorded by five named concert pianists.

David Robinson

Books

Westminster Palace
and Parliament

By Patrick Cormack

(Warne, £9.95)

Given a choice of which now stands building I should most like to see, I should opt for the old Palace of Westminster, that ancient huddle of roofs of every shape and size where the Parliament of England was born and grew to maturity. Its antique walls breathed the essence of our history. In its splendid Painted Chamber, medieval kings met the Parliament which would design and Pugin decorated, which is undoubtedly our greatest 19th century building, and is indeed one of the finest architectural conceptions of any age.

Barry's, and even more Pugin's, inspiration was, indeed, strongly medieval, yet their Palace was no pastiche but a wholly original work, a grand overall simplicity with lavish and intricate detail, which has particularly in London mist, a fairy-tale quality as well as the grandeur of Victorian confidence. It was not born easily. Many detected its Gothic intention; it was described as the "triumph of Gothic barbarism" over the "masterpiece of Italy and Greece". Others wished to reconstruct at least the Painted Chamber and the old St Stephen's chapel, incorporating them into a new building. When Barry's work was finished, the Commons complained and made him alter their Chamber.

Yet that Chamber quickly made its own history as the place where Gladstone, Disraeli, Lloyd George and Churchill became leaders of the nation. In the last war it was the only part of the Palace to be destroyed, and its successor's style seems to speak of our reduced circumstances. But we still have Pugin's incomparable House of Lords to remind us of greater days, and the Palace of Westminster as a whole remains as it was conceived — by a strange coincidence, just at the moment when the old unreformed Parliament gave way to a more orderly franchise leading to democracy.

The portrait and history of this building, which inspired Monet, has been sketched lovingly and lucidly, with enough, but not too much, detail, by Mr Patrick Cormack, with an account of the old Palace it replaced. Readers unfamiliar with the building's complexity might, however, have been helped by a ground plan — and I rather wish that Mr Cormack had not talked about giving one of the architects "a break". Send for Mr Philip Howard at once!

Ronald Butt

Dance Patterns of noise in balletic burlesque

Merce Cunningham

Sadler's Wells

Arnold Haskell's *Penguin Ballet*, had a cartoon by Ray Ambrose of three determined ladies climbing up to the Covent Garden gallery while one confided to the others: "Lifar, there oughtn't to be any music. Just noises." I wonder what those prewar examples of the lunatic fringe (for Serge Lifar, too) of modernism would have made of Merce Cunningham and his accompanying modern musicians at Sadler's Wells this week?

We know Haskell's opinion: that once the first shock had worn off, their "modernistic gimmicks" would disappear into nothing. Well, Cunningham, Cage and company have had little effect on dance and music than Lifar did, or whoever orchestrated his noises for the once notorious *Leore*.

They had one new work and another London premiere in Wednesday's programme. *Exchange*, created in 1978, uses a cast of 15 dancers. Eight of them start it, and we were well into the ballet when the significance of the title became clear as they were replaced by the other seven. Towards the end there were some further partial exchanges of place.

At the midway point, the predominant quality of movement changed too, from mainly slow choreography to a faster pace, with the women simultaneously converting from a largely passive role to equality with the men. Jasper Johns designed the costumes, in a palette of greys and gentle greens at first, with mauves and rose pink introduced later.

David Tudor's electronically produced score accompanying the work was no less carefully and imaginatively structured than Cunningham's choreography, but I can understand the point of the man whom I overheard, describing it as "insolent." Like a mixture of birdsong and radio static at first, it later became as insistent and clamorous as machine noises: no louder, I am sure, than a symphony orchestra, but more piercing and painful to unready ears.

Takehisa Kosugi's score accompanying the wild piece *Callot's* was also made up of what most people would call noises, but arranged in patterns which we recognize more easily as musical, and why deny that description to sounds produced through electrical equipment, while allowing it to sounds produced by depressing levers or pedals?

Mark Lancaster has reassessed the dancers' colourfully and introduces a touch of fun with their gaudy shirts and red socks worn with black shoes. Cunningham in *Galopade* reverts to a manner we have not seen from him lately, of light-hearted comedy sustained all through the piece. It involves much playful movement, some capricious, inconsequential gestures, and even a couple of almost balletic burlesque trios. All very nicely danced, as usual. Who knows? Perhaps at this time we shall one day see Cunningham creating ballets again to Satie's music. Then, what will Lifar say?

John Percival

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Hobbling back into action

I walked 30 feet the other day and felt much as I did on learning to ride a bicycle at the age of eight. Then it was my father who anxiously chased the wobbling saddle of my scrawny horse down the road in rural mid-Wales. Now it was a staff nurse in loco parentis who nervously followed me in the hospital ward as I thumped down my crutches on the polished linoleum.

After six weeks in traction flat on my back with my broken leg in a sling, the doctors at Westminster Hospital had started phase two of my return to the perpendicular. First they cut me loose from the cobweb of cords and pulleys and encased my limb in plaster, one length above the knee and another below stretching down to my toes—

with a plastic hinge to join them. Next they handed me a pair of crutches and finally they sent me home.

Not that they sent me home without careful tuition. A physiotherapist brightly showed me how to ascend and descend a flight of steps in the hospital gym without even using the banisters. In fact after one week down the staircase at home I have opted for a kind of abseiling technique on my bottom.

The past few weeks have taught me the art of what Stephen Potter might have called One Downmanship. An important lesson has been in the wisdom of making lists of all that you need to have done by the next person foolish enough to wander into your room. "Oh, while you are here, I wonder if you would mind..." that sort of thing.

The frustration of finding after his/her departure that you still need the curtains drawn, the television switched on or your ballpoint retrieved from the floor is almost unbearable.

Chairs are now placed around the house at strategic points, beside the washbasin, a window or the telephone, marking my progress as I stump from room to room like an artefact from Hammer films craning under my foot. I have found out how to dress and undress, pulling trousers round the heel of my plastered foot with the help of a crutch and a curse or two. I carry notebooks around in my teeth and have developed a sense of balance that is almost balistic.

In a previous article which I wrote from my orthopaedic bed several weeks ago I praised the National Health Service and the kindness and efficiency of the hospital staff. I subsequently received a heavy mailbag from readers who had undergone a similar experience. Most were in agreement, but some complained that I must have been in the first euphoria of hospitalization when one's near-total helplessness pushes all other cares out of the window and induces a kind of relaxation.

My appreciation of the service I received was unaltered. Nurses particularly were so ungrudging in their attention throughout what must have been a long and exhausting day. Florence Nightingale would have been proud of them.

It is also true, however, that this kind of novelty about being in hospital which like all novelties, wears off after a while. My visitors were generous, and unstinting with their time. I ended with a drawer full of paperbacks and my byline *appealation contrivance*. A colleague brought me a set of Scrabble, and television was a powerful narcotic.

My hospital experience was relatively short in four weeks time I am due to have my plaster removed before moving on to intensive physiotherapy—phase three of my recuperation. One enduring gift I brought away from hospital was a deeper sympathy and respect for those who lie in bed for months, for years and may be forever.

This, after all, is supposed to be their year.

Henry Stanhope

Is Billingsgate in danger of melting down?

Dreadful though the London climate may be, you would hardly expect to encounter a permanent frost. But I am told it is there, up to 4ft deep, beneath the cold stone at Billingsgate fish market in the City.

It is causing interest because the market is to move to new premises in Wapping at the end of the year. The antiquated refrigeration machinery will then be removed and some people believe that, once the frost is allowed to melt, the building will fall down.

That would be a catastrophe for those who have spent years of their lives at the fish market. The Corporation, persuaded by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, to list the building as a historic and architectural interest, thus allegedly reducing its attraction to developers.

The whole site, including the adjoining lorry park, is now up for sale. The Corporation will not say how many bids it has received until the closing date for tenders on August 28, but expects a fetch between £5m and £10m, its confidence is such that yesterday it agreed to contribute £150,000 towards the cost of a nine-month archaeological dig, which will begin early next year and which is expected to disclose important Roman remains.

Before putting the site up for

Tory naval cuts belittle Britain



Admiral Stansfield Turner, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency during the Carter Administration, argues that Mrs Thatcher's new defence policy will undermine Britain's role in the world

such as the high percentage of Europe's oil that flows from the Gulf.

Accordingly, the threat of a Soviet military assault on Western Europe is less today than for some time despite its numerical advantage in forces. There are simply too many other and less risky wars in which the Soviets can challenge us.

It will not be easy to widen the focus of NATO's attention. Yes, it absolutely must be done, so much so that the United States will give it the necessary attention unilaterally if the alliance does not awaken. This is no time to have the alliance going in two directions at once. Yet, here in Britain, by its new defence policy, it is implicitly turning its back on the world outside Europe.

The accent in the restructured defence programme appears to be on static ground and air forces in Europe. They serve no usefulness in deterring the global threats NATO is facing today in the Gulf and may well face elsewhere in the years ahead. The Royal Navy could play a role in global deterrence disproportionate to its size.

When considering the deterrent impact of a show of naval force in some remote region, there is a multiplier effect if that force is international rather than just United States. Moreover, the Royal Navy is particularly suited to this type of role because of its long history of patrolling the seas. Its ships can show up almost anywhere on the globe without arousing the same sense of alarm that many other navies

would serve. Under Mr Norr's plan the Royal Navy would eschew such a role as it dropped back to the equivalent of half a dozen of the smaller navies.

Second, this cut at the Royal Navy also hurts NATO where it is least prepared. That is in defence of the sea lanes to America. In two world wars the joint defence of those sea lanes by the Royal Navy and the United States Navy saved Western Europe from sure defeat.

Since the end of World War II we have forgotten that lesson, in large measure because initially there was no threat on the horizon. Yet, a formidable Soviet navy has evolved. More naval analysts feel that the Soviets intend to employ their navy in defence of the homeland rather than against the North Atlantic sea lanes. Neither the Kaiser nor Hitler intended, or prepared for, to instantly upon going to war.

The Soviet Navy is not many years away from the point when it will be strong enough to plan for and intend a repulsion of the German efforts should war break out. Yet, in this budget, Britain is signalling that it does not worry about this danger.

Britain, with its historic perspective of the importance of the North Atlantic sea lanes, should be sounding the alarm at this oversight in NATO's planning. Instead it is turning its back on this contribution which its heritage makes it so appropriate to make.

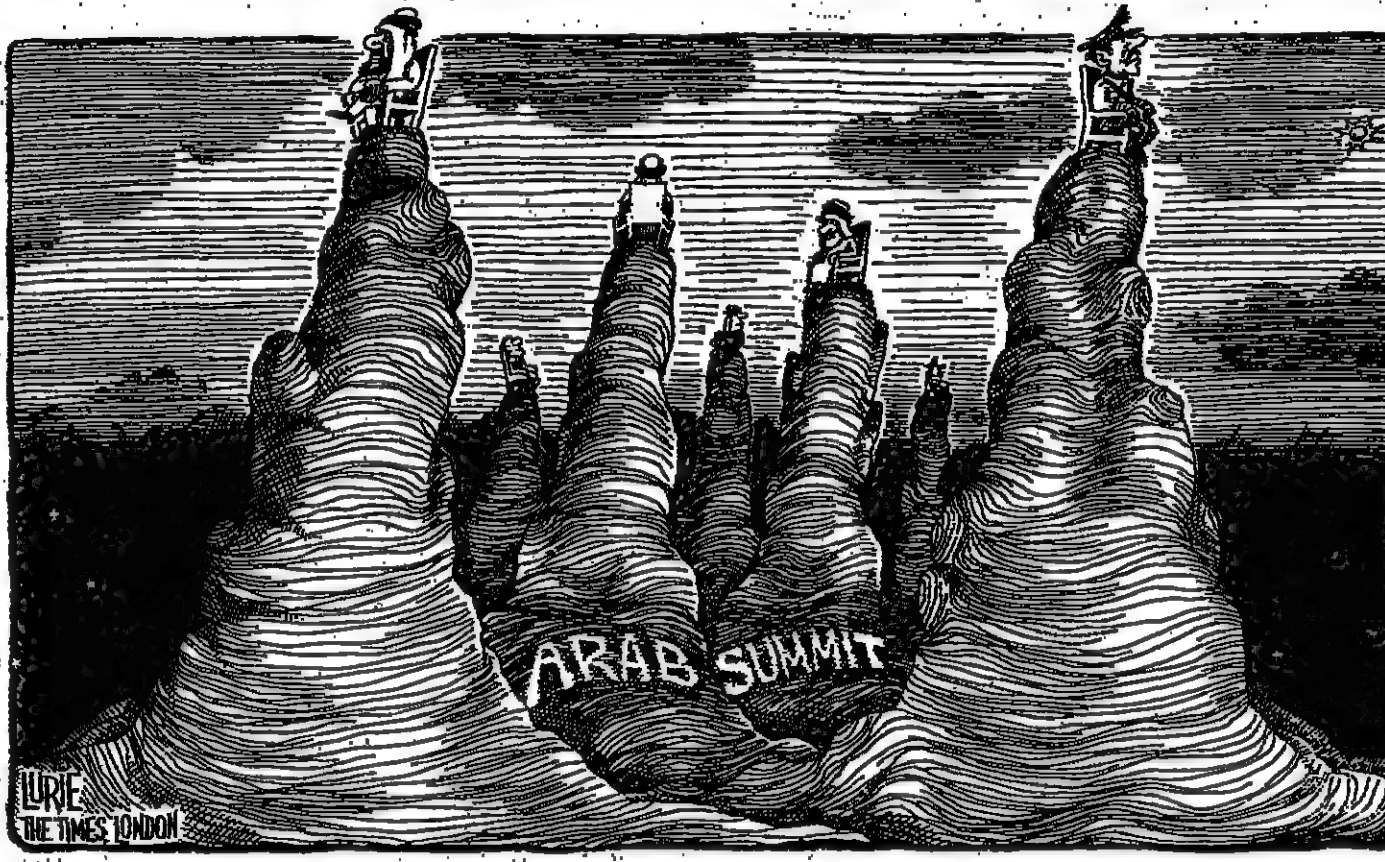
Finally, one of the significant contributions to the size of the Royal Navy has made over the years since World War II is to develop new equipments and tactics of naval warfare. The American Navy is built around aircraft carriers that were revolutionized by the Royal Navy's steam catapults and angled decks, for instance. Today the Royal Navy has designed a different breed of aircraft carrier, the "through-deck cruiser" or small carrier, HMS Invincible, which has just joined the fleet with such success is the first of these.

This is just the sort of ship the United States Navy is going to need when it awakens from its ill-conceived fascination with mammoth supercarriers. These small, flexible carriers, however, would likely be one of the victims of Mr Norr's budget cut.

Britain is a sea power, not a large one by United States and Soviet standards, but a significant one by capability, prestige, and tradition. Britain's navy will be a land power or an air power of any significance. The entire British Army of the Rhine and its air component is but a fraction of the United States reserve of forces for rapid movement to Europe, for instance.

The proposed budget cuts, then, force Britain into a minor role, as just another contributor to a static continental power complex, and forsake the considerable role she can, and should, play in the much wider sphere of maritime power.

How the Arabs make Israel stronger



have widened. Even the attempt by Syria to project itself as the only Arab state taking a stand against Israel expansionism has not brought the expected benefits in terms of Arab solidarity, and has not substantially reduced Syrian isolation.

Call for a holy war

Saudi Arabia, it is true, has repeatedly called for a holy war against Israel, and during his visit to London King Khalid has impressed on the Government his view that the main cause of instability in the Middle East remains the failure to resolve the Palestinian question.

But while most Arab leaders can at least agree on that, there is little unanimity on anything else. Most Arab leaders, for example, while outwardly condemning the Israeli raid on Lebanon, were in all probability secretly glad to see President Saddam Hussein brought down a peg or two. Saddam Hussein's pretensions to leadership of the Arab world have irritated many of his colleagues in the Arab League, and his inability either

to prevent or so far—retaliate against the Israeli raid has exposed him to the charge that his rhetoric has led to little more than posturing. Pressures inside Iraq could well provide one of the clues to the next shake-up of the Middle East kaleidoscope. The ruling Baath Party in Baghdad appears to be in full command, and Saddam Hussein has ensured that his relatives and close supporters are in key positions. None the less he could become vulnerable if it is shown that far from uniting the Arab and Islamic world, he has aggravated existing divisions and has allowed Iraq to be militarily humiliated.

Much will depend on the course of the Iraqi war with Iran. The long-promised spring offensive has not materialized. If it does, President Saddam Hussein could still pull off the kind of success he badly needs. But that in turn partly depends on the course of the struggle in Iran itself. The dismissal of President Bani-Sadr as Commander-in-Chief may improve the effectiveness of the Iranian armed forces, and is certainly likely to lead to a rethinking of strategy by the Iranian chiefs of staff, who evidently

approved of, and probably helped to engineer, Mr Bani-Sadr's removal. But equally, Mr Bani-Sadr remains popular with the rank and file in the armed forces, and with junior officers. He has been an active Commander-in-Chief, spending more time at the front than in Tehran, so that the charge by "Islamic fundamentalists" that he lives a life of luxury far from the fighting has not impressed the soldiers themselves. It may be that General Fallah, the new C-in-C, will be able to devise a successful military strategy against Iraq, thus implicitly demonstrating that despite his active involvement in the war effort, Mr Bani-Sadr achieved little, and should have left the field to the professionals.

Fears of a civil war

But it is equally possible that some of the armed forces, at least, will rally round the embattled President, and divisions will arise among Iraq's fighting men, the effect would seem bound to be demoralizing.

Mr Bani-Sadr, moreover, still commands support in the population at large, and fighting on the streets between his supporters and those of the Islamic clergy could lead to outright civil war.

If that were to happen, Iraq might be able to press home its advantage and regain lost lands in the Arab world. But as long as the present stalemate exists, the only true victor is likely to be Israel. The disarray in the Islamic world is illustrated by the fact that Iran felt obliged to condemn the Israeli attack on Baghdad, even though it was in fact in Iran's own interests.

Contradictions of this kind give the Israeli far greater room for manoeuvre than they would otherwise have, and Jerusalem can be expected to respond astutely to any future shifts in relations among its neighbours. This will be especially true if, as seems increasingly likely, against all previous predictions, Mr Bani-Sadr wins the Israeli election at the end of this month, and strikes even more tough-minded and determined than before.

Richard Owen

David Watt

Ulster: the three crucial steps

There have just been three elections in Ireland—two in its dangerous, precarious about the reunification that have been aroused all round—in the North, and on the British left by euphorias from time to time what needs to be done in the South as well as the North before an all-Irish solution is to be achieved, and by exposing some of the fallacies that encourage easy optimism.

Irish reunification by consent (and all consents are a prerequisite) is further away than ever. The Protestant majority has become more embittered, more inward-looking, and its tribal identity more sharply defined. Short of a massive, methodical, and sustained campaign to win a million Protestants cannot be forced to accept constitutional arrangements which they believe would cause their identity to be lost.

As for fallacies, the proposition, often canvassed in the past, that the population changes will settle matters in the medium term is quite false. Recent demographic calculations show that it will be at least 50, and probably more than 80 years before the terms of the British guarantee and win a majority in a referendum calling for reunification with the South.

The other fact that is usually glossed over on both sides of the border is the economic reality. As present the British government subsidizes Northern Ireland to the tune of between £700m and £1,000m a year (depending on what calculations are made for security). If we should abandon the province it is chimerical to suppose that in its present state it could be self-supporting.

These difficulties do not dispose for ever of unification, of federal solutions, or even of the despairing remedy of repatriation. The day when the British dialogue with Dublin is useless. The point is merely that in present circumstances we are driven back to the old priority of trying to prevent what is at present a war between the IRA and the British army deteriorating once again into communal violence.

Solidarity with direct rule answers this purpose in the short run; but the reasons which impelled Mrs Thatcher to launch the Adams initiative are more valid than ever. The cost of the operation increases every day in political and international as well as in financial terms.

However, unpromising it appears, therefore, we are forced for the present to go on trying to get the Protestant and Catholic communities to take some joint responsibility for the state of affairs in the province.

How this is to be achieved is obviously a matter for prolonged thought and debate. Perhaps there will be nothing for it but a small, independent Protestant state. But meanwhile three requirements stand out:

1. A new face is needed at the Northern Ireland Office. Mr Adams' tactics are expected to carry the necessary conviction a second time.

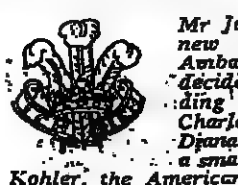
2. The stick as well as the carrot will have to be turned on both communities there. It means taking some unilateral action. The rising tension in the Labour party and elsewhere in the British community may actually strengthen Mrs Thatcher's hand in this respect.

3. Nothing will be achieved without a major demonstration of British political will. If Northern Ireland is part of our political system, why do British politicians treat it as a foreign country and refuse to sell their policies to the voters there as they would in any other part of the United Kingdom?

It is whether with all its troubles and with a general election beginning to loom, the British Cabinet has the energy and the stomach for this task.

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THE TIMES DIARY



Mr John Lewis, the new United States Ambassador, has decided on his wedding gift to Prince Charles and Lady Diana. It is a small oil by Henry

Köhler, the American painter, and shows the Prince on horseback, preparing to play polo at St James's Palace. Köhler, who lives in Southampton, Long Island, painted the picture last summer, after watching the Prince play for Guy Wildenstein's team, Les Diables Bleus. Until recently,

Köhler sold his work through the Wildenstein gallery. Mr Lewis is said to have chosen the painting because he knows the Prince admires Köhler's pictures. When Charles was in Florida last summer, the apartment he used was especially decorated with the Long Islander's work and Charles was enthusiastic.

Köhler may set something of a record among the royal wedding presents. I am told that one of the Spencer family has also commissioned a picture from him as a gift to the royal couple.

Undeterred, Tate went to the Continent and worked with Von Karajan, Boulez and Solti. He began to conduct and, as he told me from Cologne yesterday, "I was surprised how comparatively easy it was."

Last year Sir John Tooley, Covent Garden's general director, went to see him conduct. The Tales of Hoffmann in Sweden and told him afterwards: "You have demonstrated you have the stamina and the means of conducting." The result: an engagement to conduct Mozart's La clemenza di Tito.

Tate faces strong competition—Sir Colin Davis and Carlo Maria Giulini are also conducting at Covent Garden next June—but, at

the age of 38, his career is beginning to take off internationally: he will also conduct three different operas at the Met in New York next season.

The big dram

It wasn't exactly a gathering of the clans yesterday on the island of Islay, but it was as distinguished. Amid the heather and the palm trees (the Gulf Stream goes that way) the chiefs of many of our best known whisky firms met to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Bruichladdich Distillery (pronounced Bruich Laddie).

Everybody had a dram or two, or three, of Bruichladdie's slightly peaty, low-alcohol single malt, but the mellow conviviality was tempered by the sour news that whisky sales in America fell last year from £192m to £181m.

As the United States is the most lucrative export market for Scotch, the traditionally conservative whisky business is to launch an aggressive £1m corporate market-

ing strategy there in an attempt to stem the growing tide of Californian wine, tequila and Perrier water.

Having many foreign imitations of Scotch at the Disasters' Company Museum in London (with bottles of Johnnie Walker, Haig and V&S 96), another possibility comes to mind. Since Invergorrison, I hear, are now selling vodka to Bulgarians, they should all try their

secret) trick and slides down a rope from the very top of the theatre. It brought gasps from the audience and was the subject of a theatrical-praise from Robert Morley. But, for all that, at the party afterwards, everything about the evening, including the party food, was designed as pure circus. Anita Harris, Pete Murray and Danny La Rue tucked into meat and potato pie. Regrettably, I am told as tradition fare, and I listened sceptically as Crawford tried to pretend he wasn't frightened by his tricks. "I was much more scared the first time I took Concord to see the New York show," he said. "One of the engines failed and we had to limp back to London."

Looking a shade tired was producer Cy Coleman. He did no tricks last night but had been staying at the Comaught where the carvers had kept him awake. After some difficulty he had managed to move rooms. Only to find that the chippies had moved on, too... and were still overhead.

News quiz

Three more teasers, based on this week's news, in The Times. Answers at the foot of the page.

1. Oshris was killed off once more this week. Where?

2. What is Laban?

3. Nigel Evans and Bufo woodhousei (Jowler) were accused of the same transgression. What was it?

Peter Watson

مكتبة الامم المتحدة



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THE PRESSURES ON MR KANIA

The turbulent events of the past few days in Poland have not changed the situation as much as the Russians hoped and the Poles feared. The Russians in their letter of last week demanded a clear change of course and hinted that they would not be averse to a change of leadership. Some members of the Polish politburo tried to oblige them but failed. The result is that the present leadership remain while promising to do better.

Mr Kania, the party leader, thus emerges weaker in some respects but stronger in others. He is weaker insofar as he has accepted a list of Soviet complaints and undertaken to go some way to meet them. He can now be more easily held to his undertakings in public by his opponents and by the Russians. He has to produce results or face another challenge fairly soon.

On the other hand he is stronger for having survived a powerful challenge to his position and his policies. He has demonstrated that he enjoys wide support at the base of the party and his policies. He has demonstrated that he enjoys wide support at the base of the party and his policies. He has demonstrated that he enjoys wide support at the base of the party and his policies.

He was further assisted paradoxically by the weakness of the party's position in the country. To change the leadership now, especially under Soviet pressure, could weaken it still further by introducing new uncertainties and releasing new pressures. If the reformists were pushed out of the base of the party would probably rebel or simply remove itself even farther from central control. If the

hardliners were removed the Russians would become even more anxious, the old apparatus even more demoralized, and the reformists perhaps dangerously optimistic.

Therefore, when faced with its moment of truth, the central committee could find no realistic alternative to Mr Kania's middle road. This is why Mr Kania, too, resisted the temptation to attempt the removal of his opponents from the politburo. Balance and continuity remain the order of the day. He may have shown himself a somewhat drifting leader but his political skill was obvious in the backrooms over the past few days. Once the demand for a vote of confidence had been put to the central committee he could not reject it. However, realizing that a secret ballot might go against him, and would certainly remove some people from the politburo, he managed to derail it by asking members to choose publicly whether to vote on each member of the politburo.

Probably the Russians are not entirely happy with the limited results of their letter. They cannot understand the strength of the demand for change in Poland and still seem to cling to the illusion that firm measures from the top can restore a modified version of the old order, though they do seem to have come to terms with the existence of Solidarity. Whatever they now feel, they can be expected to wait to see how far Mr Kania fulfils his promises.

He undertook in his closing speech to the congress to put more limits on the media and on Solidarity, to strengthen law

enforcement and above all to get a grip on the election campaign to ensure that the present members of the politburo and secretariat and other "tested activists" are returned as delegates to the congress. His problem is that many of the levers of power are no longer connected to anything. Probably he can still bring the official press under control because the machinery of censorship still exists. This will meet one of the Soviet Union's biggest anxieties. But the unofficial press is another matter, and so is Solidarity, parts of which are very determined to expand existing freedoms. And whether the demoralized police force can quickly regain authority is also doubtful.

The election campaign presents a more complicated problem, but he can expect some success. There is still a clear difference of opinion between the Polish and Soviet parties over the main tendency in the campaign. The Poles claim that most of the new delegates, although often unknown and untested are in fact quite sound and moderate, while the Russians insist on depicting them as revisionists and opportunists. However both agree that the politburo and senior members of the apparatus should at least get as far as becoming delegates to the party congress. There is no way of ensuring this but with the support of the regional secretaries and Mr Kania's enhanced authority among them, the chances are not bad. Even so, there is still a rough road to be travelled to July and much will depend on whether the Government shows signs of getting a grip on the declining economy.

JOBS FOR THE ACADEMIC BOYS

Prince Philip is in the hot water with a number of Labour MPs for his off-the-cuff remarks in his sixtieth birthday interview about the enforced leisure of the unemployed. It was awkward and he has apologized and that's the end of the matter. It would benefit us all if the MPs and others would turn to the more considered views on the way education has failed many and wasted the search of work and a decent life. They are not slow, he said, to show that they are gifted in another way, in the balance between academic and vocational we have become a bit too academic. His observation is not new but the curious thing is that it has become almost a truism in recent years while the imbalance has become more marked partly through the actions of the very people who deplore it.

The 1944 Education Act had as its basis a commitment to providing secondary education suited to the age, aptitude and ability of every pupil. That begged many questions, but few would claim that the aspiration has been fulfilled. Universal education has developed to a great extent in the grammar school mould, and identified success predominantly as success in the fields most valued by a tradition which had catered only for a minority with special aptitudes in that line. In origin this derived from a prize-worthy determination not to tolerate a system where children without obvious academic leanings were equipped simply with the functional skills necessary for low-grade drudgery.

But the process has been carried further by professional and semi-professional bodies and universities and employers

so that to be a teacher of games you have to be good at algebra or French, or to be a speech therapist you must swot for two A levels, and to be a librarian a love of books and a capacity to advise on their purchase is no longer enough. A levels and university degrees have come to be required for training and admission in scores of employment so that they are closed to many with aptitudes but without the necessary church of certification. Professor Ronald Dore documents in *The Diploma Disease* as much as a raising of standards there has been a thirst for the mobbery of creating a more exclusive profession.

Any argument for greater utility in education must start by rejecting the idea that it means denying access to the most rewarding kinds of learning to some categories of pupil. That approach would waste talent and divide society. The proposition is that the bias towards the academic has reached the point where it obstructs the provision of a truly broadly-based education which prepares the pupil for a full life both at work and in leisure. There is wide agreement today that our system is not succeeding well enough in this.

It is partly a problem of resources, financial and human, but it is also one of lack of imagination among teachers, as recent reports by the Inspectors of Schools have shown. The shortcomings of our schools as a preparation for working life were a theme of the last Government's "great debate" on education, and have been a constant cry of those now giving evidence to the parliamentary committee on secondary education — including bodies as diverse as the TUC,

the CBE and the Society of Education Officers.

But it is society quite as much as the schools which has brought this state of affairs about. As more and more young people have been gaining educational qualifications of one kind and another, the market value of those qualifications has been devalued. At the turn of the century it was possible to get a job in many professions with a few years of schooling. Since then, and with increasing pace, almost all categories of work with any pretensions to status and esteem have erected barriers to entry in the form of often wholly irrelevant O-level and A-level requirements. It is a widespread restrictive practice which spreads fastest when competition for jobs is intense. It gives a distorted significance to the GCE, which was designed for the limited purpose of selecting students suitable for higher education.

It is neither the schools nor the examiners who are most to blame for all this. They have done much to soften its effects. It is employers and professional bodies who have demanded trophies of scholastic excellence. Their motive is partly a not unjustified distrust for the grounding is useful skills that state education actually imparts to the less able. It will be long before the CSE exam, which really does have the purpose that employers look for in the GCE, is fully trusted as evidence of solid if limited attainment. The schools have their part to play in gaining that trust. But if the outside world looks at education simply as a process for conferring badges of employability, then its value even in those limited terms will continue to be distorted.

MR BANISADR'S SLIPPERY SLOPE

The fact that the more extreme supporters of the Iranian Islamic fundamentalists are now openly seeking the execution of Mr Bani-Sadr is a sign of how far things have gone in Iran. Until recently, the President's opponents have considered it enough to call for him to be put on trial. Although the death penalty was implicit in this threat, it was never spelled out. Now, however, Mr Bani-Sadr is being compared in public to the former Shah, which is a sure sign that those who make this comparison would like him to become identified in the public mind with the iniquities of the ancient regime, so that he might come to be seen as an obstacle to the Iranian revolution who can justifiably be swept away by the Islamic sword of justice.

To describe Mr Bani-Sadr in such terms is absurd. He left Iran in 1963 and played a leading role in the opposition to the Shah's rule of left wing views well versed in economics. Mr Bani-Sadr combined an outlook derived from a Western education with devotion to Islam, and a commitment to the concept of an Islamic Republic in Iran. His presence in the Khomeini administration, after the fall of the Shah, and his subsequent election to the Presidency suggested that such a Republic could be run on enlightened and sensible lines, rather than in the obscurantist and often cruel fashion favoured by the more dogmatic among the Islamic clergy.

The decision by Ayatollah Khomeini to side with the clergy rather than with Mr Bani-Sadr

is a severe blow to such hopes. It strengthens the possibility that Iran will, as many have feared, all along, descend into the darkest chaos and disorder worse than anything experienced under the Shah. The Islamic clergy control the Majlis (Parliament), where the Islamic Republican Party has an overwhelming majority. With the banning of various opposition liberal newspapers, the clergy have also been able to tighten their grip on the press, leaving the Bani-Sadr forces with no outlet for their views except news sheets distributed by hand on the streets. Thanks to the armed thugs of the "Party of God" — also known as "club wielders" — the IRP is also able to dominate public places by creating an atmosphere of fear and intimidation.

There are forces ranged on the side of Mr Bani-Sadr. The merchant class backs him. The young, non-Communist militants of the left wing *Mujahidin*, are well organized, have access to arms, and will almost certainly fight on his side if Iran erupts into civil war.

The question is whether Mr Bani-Sadr himself will have stomach for such a fight. He is a man of civilized values, who wishes to construct an Islamic Republic by peaceful cooperation within the framework of a tolerant political system, rather than by bloody pitched battles in the streets of Tehran. He has, moreover, been under the tunnelage of Ayatollah Khomeini for so long that he may feel obliged to bow the Imam's dictates and retreat from the field. But on

the other hand, Mr Bani-Sadr has defended himself doggedly over a long period despite repeated attempts to rob him of his status and power, and can hardly relish the thought of abandoning his country to the despotism he has predicted and sought desperately to avert. He has the knowledge that most of the people who voted for him nearly eighteen months ago did so in a free election, and are still behind him.

It is still far from clear how many of the officers whom Mr Bani-Sadr commanded until this week are still loyal to him. The Chiefs of Staff have clearly been manoeuvring against him for some time. There is however goodwill towards Mr Bani-Sadr among lower ranking officers, many of whom approved of the way in which he took personal charge of the war effort. It is also acknowledged by many officers that Mr Bani-Sadr's rational approach to the conduct of public affairs is more likely than that of the IRP to lead to a normalization of relations with the United States, and possibly therefore to the eventual resumption of American military supplies.

It is possible that enough moderate opinion exists within the ranks of the clergy to reduce the influence of the more dogmatic elements. But the tendency has been for Iranian society to polarize rather than coalesce, and the two sides — the clergy and the liberals — are squaring up for a decisive trial of strength. Despite the forces he can still muster, the outlook is ominous for Mr Bani-Sadr, and for Iran.

Passing judgment on Israel's pre-emptive strike

From Mr Alan Silkin

Sir, As well as Israel, some Arab nations would almost certainly have been threatened by the presence of atomic weapons in Iraq, and in spite of the public noise must privately be glad that the reactor has been destroyed.

In view of the continued vulnerability of Israel the Baghdad raid can only be seen by reasonable people as a strictly defensive measure. The media throughout the world appear to condemn it, but the people whom the media claim to represent are by no means of the same opinion.

The only comparison I can think of, and I believe it to be a valid one, is that of the air operations towards the end of the Second World War, whose object was to destroy the bases from which the V2 weapons were to be launched on Britain. International guarantees cannot ensure the safety of Israel. Only constant vigilance on the part of Israel and its allies can attempt to do that. Those who are voluble in their condemnations would no doubt think differently if their own country was so threatened.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN SILKIN,
21 The Avenue,
Widewater,
Kent.
June 10.

From Mr Paul McGhee

Sir, The Olympic armistice of Mr Begin has found its perfect foil in the Olympic detachment of your leader column "Israel's pre-emptive strike" (June 9).

Most of us heard the news on radio or television, and I am sure that many like myself who have given little thought to the shifts of war and diplomacy in the Middle East, reacted with shock and unqualified disapproval to an act of barbaric aggression. The pre-emptive strike is one for which it is difficult to find any moral justification. Where nuclear installations are involved, it is a concept which, had it been carried out, would have involved the world in a nuclear war.

And yet we can watch the BBC read the Times in Britain and feel that all this is of little importance. A "fission" bomb error on the part of the Israelis, a part of their election campaign and no more. There are times when balanced reporting is not the answer when it is not decorous. Can the Times, which is a hard line against one faction in Ulster, not take a firmer lead in roundly condemning this action of an infinitely more dangerous faction in the Middle East?

The crux of the justification of this outrage is contained in your sentence:

Sikorski issues

From Mr K. M. Smogorzewski
Sir, To my almost painful surprise I found three mistakes in your editorial entitled "Let a sleeping hero lie" (June 8).
1. General Sikorski was not a Russian. He was a Polish officer of the Polish Army, which comprised four infantry divisions, one cavalry brigade, one cavalry division and three smaller units.
2. Not "10,000 Polish officers" lay in the Katyn Forest — only about 4,000; that is those who had been interned at Kozelsk. Nobody knows where the rest of about 10,000 Polish officers and civil servants interned at Starobelsk and Ostaszkov, had been butchered by the Soviet security police on Stalin's orders.

3. You affirm that "General Sikorski's late widow opposed the return of the ashes and her wishes still command respect". Of course, but she never opposed such a transfer to the British Library. As Mrs Sikorski told me on two occasions that she would agree to the return of the remains of her husband to the land of his birth if he would be reinterred in Krakow, on the Wawel Hill, within the precincts of the cathedral. Mrs Sikorski died at Bookham, near Leatherhead, on February 1, 1972. On November 24, 1977, Karol Cardinal Wojtyla, then Archbishop of Krakow, and now Pope John Paul II, decided that General Sikorski's body should repose in the vaults of the Wawel Cathedral. In this situation, I presume, it was difficult to be plus catholique que le Pape.

Yours faithfully,
K. M. SMOGORZEWSKI,
138 High Street,
Shepperton,
Middlesex.
June 9.

Abolishing rates

From Councillor David Pinfen
Sir, Your leader of June 3 and the letter from Mr Geoffrey Eppon, QC, MP, referred to the dilemmas created by the Government's recent announcements. In our view, the disadvantages in the alternatives to rates which have been put forward apply least to local income tax, where the principal disadvantage, that of collection, was greatly exaggerated by Layfield.

A combination of local income tax, an increase in charging for services and subsidy to individuals rather than services through a negative income tax, would enable local authorities with an independent source of revenue, with the level of tax set by local referendum. The expedient referred to by Mr Rippon of transferring the cost of services such as education to central Government, could deal a blow to local autonomy from which it would not recover.

It is perhaps surprising that a party of independence and individual freedom should appear to be encouraging more central control at the expense of local autonomy. The opposite policy which we advocate is our recently published pamphlet, *Tories Against Rates*, not only solves the Government's present dilemma, but would be consistent with a long tradition of Conservative support for the independence of local authorities.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID PINFEN, Chairman,
Tories Against Rates,
Old Challowes,
Crowthorne,
Lingfield,
Surrey.
June 5.

Despite French denials, there is evidence that the Iraqis have been able to evade the conditions imposed and had acquired sufficient weapons-grade enriched uranium to build a nuclear device.

I think we are entitled to ask where this evidence — available to The Times and to Israeli military intelligence but not to the rest of us — came from?

Yours faithfully,
PAUL MCGHEE,
60 Chaucer Road,
Hill, SE24,
June 9.

From Dr Gerald Segal

Sir, Is Israel so concerned about nuclear proliferation by her enemies (your leader, June 10) or are domestic politics pre-emptive?

Premier Begin suggests that the attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor was purely defensive. This may be true, but why publicise the strike and its consequences? Like Israeli attacks on PLO operations in Europe, "defensive" but illegal acts are never officially acknowledged. The publicity and timing of the strike in Iraq suggests that the cynics may be correct in suggesting that the Israeli domestic elections were of greater importance.

Yours sincerely,
G. SEGAL,
The University College of Wales, Aberystwyth (Department of International Politics),
Llandinam Building,
Aberystwyth.
June 10.

From Dr S. Habib

Sir, The pretext that Israel has based its unprovoked attack on the 70 MW Osirak nuclear reactor is inconsistent. It is certainly not true to suggest that the 70 MW Iraqi reactor is capable of producing two or three times the amount of plutonium within an operational period of two to three years as the Israelis claim.

Iraq has signed the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and its nuclear facilities are open to periodic inspection by the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Authority). It would be extremely difficult to divert significant quantities (tens of kilograms) of enriched fuel for the production of a "fission" bomb without undergoing detection.

Further, the reactor fuel (highly enriched uranium) is not suitable for the production of significant quantities of Pu-239 for a plutonium-based nuclear device. The reactor is a type of fuel which would have been natural uranium. Also the placing of natural uranium rods in the highly enriched core for the production of plutonium, as suggested by your Science Editor, June 9, would produce very small quantities of plutonium (about 1 gm).

Law on contempt

From Mr P. B. Mathews
Sir, Sir Denis Forman (June 3) asserts that I was mistaken in saying that "in BSC v Granada" discovery of the identity of the source was ordered to enable BSC to sue the publisher. According to the decision in *BSC v Granada*, BSC must first show that they had no intention of pursuing any legal action against the source if and when Granada were to name him.

Now BSC may or may not have said that in the courts, but what matters in determining the legal basis for the decision in *BSC v Granada* is to know what facts were put before the House of Lords. Their Lordships specifically asked counsel for BSC whether his clients intended to take legal action against

Scientific publishing

From the Editor-in-Chief of "Social Science and Medicine"
Sir, The Royal Society and the British Library have concluded that "the network of scholarly publications which is the life-blood of scientific research is in danger" (as reported by your Science Editor, June 3).

The problem of communication within and between all subjects is one of grave concern. In 1960 there were 18,000 scientific journals in the world, and now it has risen to 22,000. Long ago Professor Bernal observed that it had become easier to make a scientific discovery than to learn whether it had already been made. We have now reached a point where, in order to stay 95 per cent

Pu-239 which would be a very inefficient process.

The 2 MW reactor which has been operational in Iraq since 1968 has been used purely for pure and applied scientific research. The 70 MW Osirak reactor is therefore a natural upgrade providing a higher flux for the research scientists. It is certainly a very common type of installation in a number of national nuclear research centres.

Yours sincerely,
SALAH HABIB,
30 Diamond Road,
Glasgow.
June 11.

From Mr Oswald Hull

Sir, The success of the Israeli coup against Baghdad provides no lasting answer to the problems of a country surrounded by enemies and with few allies. This latest tactical achievement will have drawn attention once more to Israel's vulnerability to a wide range of contemporary sophisticated missiles against which "buffer zones" give little or no protection.

The attack on Iraq's reactor was supposedly designed to remove a threat to Israel. It may rather introduce a period of aggravated danger for a country unwilling — or unable — to reach an accommodation with her neighbours over the rights of the Palestinians and sovereignty over the Muslim holy places.

Yours sincerely,
OSWALD HULL,
45 Regina Road, N4,
June 9.

From Mr Sydney D. Bailey

Sir, Paper agreements are not everything, of course, but one wonders whether it was wise for a country which has not signed the nuclear non-proliferation treaty to make a unilateral strike against the nuclear facilities of a country which has signed it.

Yours faithfully,
S. D. BAILEY,
19 Deansway,
East Finchley, N2.
June 9.

From Mr Charles Atchley

Sir, Those who criticise the Israeli strike against the Iraqi nuclear installations should remember that Iraq has at all times considered itself in a state of war with Israel since 1948.

Whether the action taken was wise is open to debate, but to brand it, as some have done, as a breach of international law is entirely misconceived.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES ATCHLEY,
12 Cecil Road,
Weston-super-Mare.

the source once identified to the best of my memory (I was there) he replied: "He [the source] was worth powder and shot, yes." And as Lord Wilberforce said in his speech last November, "They [BSC] have not renounced any intention to proceed against him for damages; they have only indicated their only intention was to dismiss him as an assertion of BSC and nothing more." ([1981] 1 All ER 417 at 459.)

BSC v Granada was, on the facts presented to the House of Lords, a case of libel and court action, and it must therefore remain unaffected by this amendment.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL MATTHEWS,
University College London (Faculty of Law),
4-8 Endsleigh Gardens, WC1,
June 9.

of the significant literature published in a given field it is necessary to examine between 500 and 1,000 different journals.

At the heart of the matter is a conflict of need and interest between research authors, institutions and publishers. Until these can be satisfactorily examined and a continuing forum established with representatives from all sides meeting regularly to discuss the situation, the situation will steadily deteriorate. The notion of rationality needs to be introduced into the whimsical demands of the market place.

I am, etc.
PETER J. M. McEWAN,
Glenparish,
Ballinacorney,
Aberdeenshire.
June 6.

Vaccination risks

From Professor Gordon T. Stewart
Sir, Not for the first time, I have to suggest to you that if your medical correspondent, Dr Tony Smith, insists on pontificating on the "vaccination risk" he must learn to take" he should at least get his facts straight. In his article on May 13 he says that the Government's research team calculates that "permanently disabling disability will result from vaccination against whooping cough once in every 300,000 immunizations". He does not seem to recognize that a course of vaccination consists of three or more injections, that the risk of reaction is incremental and that the Government's epidemiological research team to which he refers, and of which I was a member, assessed the risk of severe incapacity with permanent brain damage at 1:225,000 to 1:106,000. The team also acknowledged the probability of under-reporting and the much higher frequency — about 1:1,000 according to a recent survey in the United States — of lesser neurological reactions. Exact information on the relative risks of whooping cough vs. a vaccine is admitted to be lacking.

Like the Government, Dr Smith fails to mention the independent evidence provided by the number of compensation payments made on the advice of its own doctors and of independent medical consultants to parents of children with brain damage following vaccination. These amount to about 400 for whooping cough vaccine, about three times the number for all other vaccines, giving a risk over the period 1958-1980 of about 1:45,000 with many cases awaiting a hearing or appeal and excluding those who have already died or were admitted years ago to mental hospitals because they were unmanageable at home. What we "must" do is obtain

better evidence about relative risks and, meantime, suspend all assumptions that doctors and government departments know better than parents what is best for their children. The risk of not having whooping cough is not that the child will suffer whooping cough but that it might and that, if it does, it might suffer an unknown risk of complications and, in infancy, a very slight risk, lower than ever before on current data, of death. If a well child is vaccinated it might still get whooping cough, but it also runs a risk of brain damage after vaccination, which might be permanent and totally disabling. This is admitted, rare but it is quite unpredictable, as are occasional sudden deaths after vaccination.

It is outrageous to declare that parents "must" take this risk or that children "must" be subjected to it — I would suggest instead that, where uncertainties of this order exist, the Government and its medical establishment should take steps to repair the gross deficiencies in its own procedures for notification, verification and assessment of infectious diseases and of adverse reactions to drugs and medicines, and that meanwhile they should stop smothering the truth about the risks of whooping cough vaccine.

Acceptance of whooping cough vaccine has fallen because parents and doctors know of the risk while others are doubtful. Dr Smith's allegation that doubts about this vaccine have reduced current acceptance of polio vaccine and other essential vaccines is erroneous and this also is clear in the Government's report (page 170). Yours, etc.
GORDON T. STEWART,
University of Glasgow,
Department of Community Medicine,
Ruchill Hospital,
Glasgow.

Civil Service grievances

From Mr Theo Hetherington
Sir, Mr Kendall, Secretary General of the Council of Civil Service Unions (June 9), seems to be asking you what to do next if committed nine question marks in his first three paragraphs. May I suggest you advise him as follows?

Stop being bitter and change your whole attitude. Recognize that for the reasons Lord Somers has already given both to your unions and to Parliament the Government cannot and will not improve on their present offer: accept their invitation to work out a more satisfactory method of determining rates of pay in the future.

In the meantime, if you are not workers in an industry, whether private or public, and that "industrial action" is therefore inappropriate, you are government servants; and you are not serving a dictatorship like that in Poland or Czechoslovakia but a government democratically elected by the people of this country. Your attempts, therefore, to draw a distinction between Government and people are inept. You do not enjoy the support of the majority of your fellow-citizens, who are shocked at the spectacle of government servants actually withholding their services; it's something new, unacceptable, and quite out of line with the fine tradition of loyalty to the Government of the day, which has characterized the British Civil Service for centuries.

Ignore the extremists who are using you to be "tough" and suggest to the people whom you represent that they consider their existing blessings and tell them that in the long run they will guard their own interests and those of their fellow-countrymen best by helping the Government to conquer inflation and thereby the prosperity of the country generally.

Difficult? Of course, but so are many things that are worth doing. Yours faithfully,
THEO HETHERINGTON,
Mushroom Cottage,
St. John's Hill,
Shaftesbury,
Dorset.
June 9.

Labour's leadership

From Dr K. D. Ewing
Sir, A problem which has arisen in relation to the election of a Labour Party leader and deputy leader is whether a trade union member who is exempt from paying the political levy is eligible to participate in any votes held within the party. The Labour Party's constitution states that several unions have been advised that several members cannot be lawfully excluded from these votes.

By the Trade Union Act 1913, when political funds ruled must provide that exempt members shall not be placed at any disability or disadvantage, except in relation to the control or management of the political fund, by reason of their exemption (s.3(2)). A trade union member who is aggrieved by an alleged breach of such a rule may complain to the certification officer.

Such a rule was considered by the certification officer in *Parkin and others v Labour Party* (1979, unreported) where it was held that exempt members could be lawfully excluded from voting on matters which related to the internal affairs of the Labour Party. The certification officer held that such members were not subject to any disability or disadvantage because they had freely chosen not to support the party, and secondly, that matters relating to the internal affairs of the party were within the "internal" affairs of the management of the political fund.

The reasoning in *Parkin* applies with equal force to votes in the Labour Party leadership election. *Parkin* is the most recent authoritative pronouncement on this matter and it would therefore appear that exempt members may be lawfully excluded from such votes. This reasoning is perfectly consistent with s.3(2), which was to protect exempt members from victimization but not to enable them to participate in an area of activity from which they had deliberately chosen to exclude themselves.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH EWING,
Faculty of Law,
University of Edinburgh,
Old College,
South Bridge,
Edinburgh.
June 10.

Wardrobe's new clothes

From Mr A. K. Fox
Sir, Your Architectural Correspondent (report, June 4) comments the present planning application for the new Wardrobe Place which, on the basis of an artist's impression, will destroy three sides of this unique square. The listed early eighteenth-century buildings and the new buildings which are to be retained will be totally dominated by twentieth-century buildings. This is no way to care for a conservation area.

There may well be a case for one twentieth-century building within Wardrobe Place, but let this be alongside — both — Edwardian and Victorian buildings as well as the eighteenth-century buildings. If the planning application is allowed within this conservation area then the intimate character of the remainder of the south-west of St Paul's must surely go, bit by bit. Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY R. FOX,
Fox and Hoare,
6 Wardrobe Place,
Carter Lane, EC4.
June 5.

Snow on their boots?

From Mrs R. Vereker
Sir, Your weather report, now on the back page, states that the temperature in Warsaw yesterday, June 11, was 75° F. In your photograph on the front page today, Poles are seen queuing for food in their winter coats, hats and boots. Are the Poles so chilled by the political climate or are your editors as confused by the rearrangement of news items as at least one of your readers? Yours truly,
PATRICIA VEREKER,
Finches,
Stanton St John,
Oxford.
June 9.

Ferranti claims world lead, Page 18

Stock markets
FT Ind 536.2, down 6.1
FT Gilt 65.83, down 0.36

Sterling
\$1.9500, down 215 points
Index 94.8, down 0.2

Dollar
Index 109.2, up 0.7
DM 2.4027, up 345 pts

Gold
\$465.50, unchanged

Money
3 mth sterling 12 1/2-12 3/4
6 mth sterling 17 1/4-17 1/2
3 mth Eurp \$ 17 1/4-17 1/2

IN BRIEF

Iran claims credit for Krupp jobs

Fewer jobs than predicted are expected to be lost at Krupp AG in Bochum, West Germany, company works council sources said.

Company figures, which forecast the loss of 5,000 jobs under a DM500m (about £107m) restructuring and investment programme, resulting possibly in 1,900 actual redundancies, were no longer correct, the sources said.

Iran, which holds a 25 per cent stake in the company, has claimed credit for saving several hundred jobs. Iran opposed the redundancy plan because it was against Islamic principles.

The restructuring programme was approved at a Channel 4 board yesterday, when alternative proposals on job cuts from the works council were accepted.

Wall Street over 1,000

The New York stock market rallied yesterday. The Dow Jones industrial average closed 1,054 points up, nearly 60 points higher than the previous day's close. The S&P 500 was 115.030. The 'E' was 0.59837.

Cheltenham gold ends

Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society is to open no more of its controversial 'Cheltenham Gold' accounts after June 30. The account, which offered large-scale subscribers a better than average interest rate, was criticized by other building society chiefs because it threatened their agreement on interest rates. Cheltenham & Gloucester says it is 'delighted' with the flow of funds into the account.

Joint video venture

Thorn-EMI says that meetings held with AEG, Telefunken, Thomson-BRAND and JVC to set up a joint venture to manufacture video products in Europe have made good progress. The partners have agreed to a non-time preliminary work in Berlin for VHS video tape recorders.

Sicilian connexion

A public company, Straits of Messina, was set up in London (£300,000) capital in Rome yesterday to provide a bridge between Sicily and the Italian mainland. The state corporation and its two subsidiaries have 51 per cent of the capital. The road built by the Sicilian and Calabrian regional government and the state highways and railways.

Savoy stake

Trusthouse Forte claimed yesterday to control more than 60 per cent of Savoy Hotels group shares, giving it more than 40 per cent of the vote. THF, which is bidding for the group, said it had acquired another 780,000 'A' shares. THF shares last night slipped to 148p but Savoy 'A' shares gained to 151p.

Business practice

Sir Terence Beckett, director-general of the CBI yesterday praised the Government's business start-up scheme. He said it was one of the most important contributions made towards encouraging new firms since the war.

Saudi trade visit

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister of State for Trade, leaves for Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, today on a six-day tour. He hopes to secure a substantial share for British firms of the country's spending on heavy industries.

Rolls in Arab link

Rolls-Royce has set up a new company in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, to make gas turbines. Rolls-Royce Industrial Turbines Saudi Arabia (RRITSA) is jointly owned by its British parent and the Saudi engineering company SAEMCO.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises	Falls
AAC 12p to 62p	Let Thomson 10p to 24p
Churchbury 5p to 64p	McLeod Russell 10p to 30p
Downting 8p to 22p	Smiths Inds 15p to 38p
Global Nat Res 75p to 96p	Standard Tel 10p to 50p
Hanson Trust 7p to 22p	Swire Pacific 'A' 10p to 17p

British Steel may sell stake to Japanese

Nippon Steel Corporation of Japan, the world's largest steelmaker, may acquire an equity interest in the British Steel Corporation's general engineering subsidiary of Redpath Dorman Long.

Discussions have been taking place for some weeks and are expected to be concluded for some time. The move is in line with the BSC's already announced plan to reduce its interest in RDL to a minimum of 40 per cent.

British Steel is already supplying technical assistance to the BSC in its steelmaking operations, but the strong possibility of the Japanese company acquiring at least a substantial minority stake in RDL would be a significant step.

Benefits would be considerable for both companies. Nippon's undoubted technical expertise in steelmaking and engineering projects, would provide RDL with a competitive edge. RDL's traditional export markets, especially in the Middle East, would open up opportunities for Nippon to move into new areas.

RDL is playing a leading role in promoting 'British Steel's plan for a £3,800m cross-Channel link conceived by Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman. The link envisaged would incorporate two twin-lane roadways approved at a Channel 4 board yesterday, when alternative proposals on job cuts from the works council were accepted.

Steel output up 18 pc on second half of 1980

Steel production by the British Steel Corporation and the independent companies in May rose by more than 18 per cent compared with the average for the second half of last year.

Although production still remains far below levels achieved in the corresponding month of 1979, the improvement was seen as further evidence that the recession has flattened out.

During the month production amounted to an average of 286,400 tonnes a week. This represented a fall of 7.2 per cent on the previous month and more than 20 per cent below levels of May last year.

BSC plants were processing orders delayed by the three-month-long strike.

Output in May was affected by annual holidays taken in public sector plants in the Sheffield area. But production during the period was 18.4 per cent higher than the very low level of demand in the second half of last year.

Over the first five months of this year United Kingdom steel production averaged 289,400 tonnes a week compared to 414,800 tonnes a week in the corresponding period of 1979.

The need to avoid further plant closures and capacity cutbacks was underlined yesterday by leaders of the TUC Steel Committee who met Mr Norman Tebbit, Minister of State, responsible for the steel industry.

During the meeting—the first between the minister and the committee—steel industry union leaders emphasized the need for an economic drive between unions and the BSC over any further changes in the corporation's survival plan.

Mr William Sims, chairman of the committee and general secretary of the industry's largest union, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, said after the meeting that the unions were also concerned about the lack of consultation on the formation of Allied Steel and Wire, a joint company formed between the BSC and CILCOR.

The union team also urged Mr Tebbit to ensure that the BSC's worker directors were retained on the main board.

ANOTHER SHIPYARD CLOSES

Closures and cutbacks affecting 1,170 workers in shipbuilding and chemicals were announced yesterday as the Government allocated £7.5m to a factory building programme in South Wales.

British Shipbuilders faced angry trade union reaction at a meeting in Newcastle to discuss the closure of the Robb Caledon yard in Dundee, which employs 635. They promised to retain 80 at a technical centre on the site, and to transfer up to 100 to Robb Caledon's yard at Leith.

British Shipbuilders also announced yesterday the closure of the marine engineering works of Clarke Hawthorn at Harlepool, with the loss of 275 jobs.

In Manchester, the international chemical company Chas. Geigy announced plans to close its workforce at its Trafford Park plant.

This will involve 460 job losses over two and a half years. Meanwhile, the Government is to invest £7.5m in a factory building programme.

Jobs go in shipbuilding, computers and now the rail workshops

British Rail Engineering, the manufacturing arm of British Rail, is to close its works at Ashford, Kent, later this year with the loss of 950 jobs, it was announced today.

BRE is also looking for a further reduction of 1,115 staff in its 34,000 workforce, which is spread over 13 main workshops.

Attempts will be made to achieve this further reduction by voluntary redundancies. BRE said today. The plan is part of a cost-cutting drive aimed at reducing costs by £15m.

The cuts have been made necessary by fewer orders, less repair work for British Rail, fewer export orders, and a reduction in private work.

BRE said the Ashford works had been dependent for the past few years on export orders for freight vehicles and wagon repair work for British Rail.

'Third world countries are now building vehicles at prices lower than European manufacturers can offer,' said BRE.

'This, and the effects of the recession on BRE's own freight business, has reduced the amount of repair work needed. No new major export orders have been secured, and the decline in private work has meant that Ashford works must close with a loss of 950 jobs.'

BRE said overtime had been 'virtually eliminated' since the beginning of the year in all its workshops.

Trade union representatives, who have already made it clear they are opposed to the Ashford closure and compulsory redundancies, are to meet British Rail on July 15.

The National Union of Railmen said it would be doing all it could to keep Ashford going.

The unions have been campaigning for some time for investment in exports of railway equipment, for which Ashford has the capability.

It has always turned out high quality products, kept to delivery dates, and orders have only fallen back because of the high value of the pound, says the NUR.

Most countries except Britain are preparing for an upsurge in the railway industry by equipping and expanding them, the union claims.

'Ashford will be needed in five or ten years time when the upturn comes, and if we allow it to go now, it will never return because the impetus will have gone.'

Mr Harry Johnson, secretary of the Ashford Joint works committee, said: 'We shall fight to the end. We consider Ashford works a very important unit.'

'We have been let down. Look at the profits for the last three years—about £3m were generated from these works.'

Hundreds of employees are being urged to lobby the meeting on July 15 when unions give their response to BRE's proposals.

Unions set to fight cutbacks at ICL

The management of ICL, whose plans to shed 5,200 of its 31,000 workforce was made public last week, has submitted details of the proposed redundancies to the Department of Employment, Manchester.

Staff at Trent, Stevenage, Luton, in Middlesex, and London, are where staff cuts will take place. About 1,000 jobs overseas will be lost.

The unions, among them the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS), which represents more than 9,500 employees, and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers Technical Administrative and Supervisory Staff (TASS) have declared their opposition to any form of compulsory redundancy.

Two meetings are scheduled, one in Birmingham on June 20 and another on June 23 in London, to formulate a strategy to fight the company's plans.

From the details submitted to the Government it would appear that the plant in Stoke on Trent, employing 238, will be closed.

Despite predictions made over the past few months that ICL would need to reduce its scale of the cuts has surprised even the most pessimistic.

'A month ago, in the wake of the euphoria surrounding the new management appointments at ICL and the declared Government intention to keep the company British, the Sperry Corporation predicted that at least 3,000 redundancies, and several millions of dollars of investment would be needed to make the British computer company commercially sound.'

The North-east and the Midlands will be particularly badly hit by the cuts. A high percentage of the redundancies are liable to be among the semi-skilled.

In March the Government gave the company a £200m loan guarantee to allow the company to continue. That loan will be spread over two years.

Bank union starts big recruitment campaign

The 140,000-strong Banking Insurance and Finance Union is to mount a major recruitment campaign among staff in insurance, companies and brokers after its success in wooing the 6,000 members of the Eagle Star Staff Association.

The TUC-affiliated union announced yesterday that it was discussing transfers of engagements with at least two further insurance company staff associations and is about to start a membership drive in the seven chief insurance brokerage companies in the City.

Union officials claim that the industry was 'ripe' for recruitment because of threats to employment in the brokerage companies because of the introduction of new technologies and the economic recession.

Those companies employ about 25,000 staff and BIFU officials are hopeful of recruiting at least 4,000 members in the insurance field generally by the end of the year.

The union yesterday announced the results of a ballot of the Eagle Star Association's members, which showed 3,086 in favour of a transfer of engagements to BIFU with 1,811 against. Mr Abraham Goring, the association's general secretary, will become an assistant secretary of BIFU and be responsible for the Eagle Star membership.

Mr Leif Mills, BIFU general secretary, said last night that the union's advances in the insurance industry showed it was winning the long-running recruitment battle with the City's 'Banking Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs.'

Eagle Star staff will become members of BIFU's insurance section, which already represents workers in the Guardian Royal Exchange and Phoenix companies.

Cummins to invest £500m in diesel engine battle

Cummins, the American-owned diesel engine manufacturer, which was excluded from a proposed £100m rationalisation of the British automotive diesel industry, will today hit back with plans to expand its United Kingdom plants and product range.

Mr Michael Howell, vice-president Europe, is expected to announce in Driffield, West Yorkshire, that a £500m world-wide investment programme, the biggest in the company's history, will give Cummins a complete range of new engines, including for the first time those in the smaller 50-200 hp sectors.

'This will bring it into direct competition with Perkins, the Peterborough-based subsidiary of Massey-Ferguson, Canada, which is playing the leading role in the rationalisation plans. Its proposed partners in the scheme being considered by the Department of Industry, are BL and Durham, and Daventry, has restricted its activities to heavy diesels.

It is proposed that Perkins should concentrate on the medium-powered sectors, with BL producing small diesels and Rolls-Royce heavy diesels. Until now Cummins, which employs more than 5,000 at factories at Short, near Glasgow, Darlington, Co. Durham, and Daventry, has restricted its activities to heavy diesels.

Now it plans to compete head-on with Perkins, not only in the medium truck sector, which accounts for the bulk of Perkins' sales, but in the fast-growing diesel van market. It says short of car diesels, but only just. Today's announcement is bound to lead to speculation about that eventuality.

Cummins is already a considerable force in world markets. It is by far the largest independent manufacturer of heavy diesels and is spending £30m a year on research and development, an amount unlikely to be matched.

A measure of its resilience is that it has already bounced back from the effects of the world-wide recession in truck sales, by announcing a record first quarter for sales and profits.

Its over-dependence on heavy diesels has raised doubts about its vulnerability. The cyclical swings of the motor industry seldom find all its sectors depressed at the same time as they have been in the present recession.



Mr Michael Howell: in direct competition with Perkins.

Shell petrol goes up on Monday

Shell UK Oil, joint leader with Esso in the British petrol market, has followed BP's lead by withdrawing subsidies to retailers and putting up prices to about 156p a gallon from midnight on Monday.

Earlier, Mobil said it was also going to end subsidies, forcing up the petrol price.

Shell's action is unlikely to result in a substantial change to prices in rural areas, where discounts have been less marked. The company said it would continue to make substantial losses because of intense competition arising from a surplus of crude oil, the high price of North Sea crude, which accounts for 75 per cent of Shell's refinery throughput, and the weakening of the dollar sterling exchange rate.

It added: 'The effect of petrol price increases by Shell in January and March has been wiped out by subsidies to retailers to enable them to stay competitive. The March increase in wholesale prices was intended to produce about 160p a gallon at the pump, but the intensity of competition meant that this was not possible and discounts had to be maintained.'

Dollar makes up losses with DM

The dollar rebounded on the world's foreign exchange markets yesterday after falling sharply on Wednesday, as dollar interests rates rose and the threat of Arab reprisals against the United States for Israel's attack on Iraq appeared to recede.

The United States currency more than made up Wednesday's losses against the Deutsche mark, the currency against which it is chiefly measured, climbing 3.45 pence to close in London at DM 2.4027.

It also recovered much of its previous losses against other leading currencies, and its trade-weighted index improved 0.7 to 109.2 (average 1975=100).

The pound lost 2.15 cents on the dollar, ending London trading at \$1.93. But it was stronger against leading dollar currencies, the Swiss franc falling just 0.2 to 94.8.

The dollar was boosted by higher short-term interest rates in New York, with the key Federal Funds rate opening at 19 per cent, and firmer Eurodollar deposit rates.

Ivory Coast selling puzzles cocoa dealers

Persistent recent selling of cocoa by the Ivory Coast, the world's biggest cocoa exporter, has puzzled cocoa dealers, who are trying to reach accord on a new international cocoa agreement, it is puzzling cocoa traders.

Cocoa for September delivery fell yesterday in London by 14 pence to £14.40 from £14.54. The lowest for this contract. On yesterday's exchange rate cocoa was about 74 cents a pound, far below the minimum intervention price of 110 cents, which the International Cocoa Organisation wants to introduce.

The mystery is that the Ivory Coast has all but stopped the new agreement by insisting that the intervention price is too low. But at the same time the West African producer, which accounts for about a quarter of world annual crop exports, is supposed to be working to have sold up to a third of next year's crop already.

The general condition of the market is further depressed by reports that 150,000 tonnes of the expiring seasons cocoa is still trapped up country in Ghana. Poor transport has damaged Ghana's reputation as the supplier of the best quality cocoa.

One baffled analyst said that the Ivory Coast seemed to be selling to discredit a potential international agreement. He said that last year the Ivory Coast headed a group of West African producers which tried to support the price by withholding cocoa from the market. Only the Ivory Coast stuck to the arrangement, and was then forced to make emergency sales in bulk.

Cocoa market traders argue that the longer the Ivory Coast goes on selling in such volume, the less chance there is of the price rising to meet the proposed agreement's intervention level.

Consuming nations, who in any case are growing more disenchanted with the agreement, might be persuaded that there was no point in signing the agreement and risking higher prices.

No insider dealings in Wilkinson

A Department of Trade investigation has found 'no evidence' of insider dealings in the shares of Wilkinson Match last year, ahead of the full disclosure of the company's shareholding. Allegedly, the company's shareholding, Mr. Zeno Suzuki, Japan's Prime Minister, embarked on his first tour of European capitals—clearly to head off demands for tougher controls on Japanese exports by exploiting the declining interest in the EEC.

The BEC is far from being a common market as far as cars are concerned. West Germany's market is relatively open.

Italy excludes Japanese cars almost entirely, and France imposes strict controls which have held Japan's share of the French market to less than 3 per cent.

It is also a 'voluntary restraint' agreement between the British and Japanese car industries, while Denmark, Ireland and Greece, with no car industries of their own, are especially worried by the influx of cheap Japanese cars, even though this reduces the market for BEC-made vehicles.

Brussels surprised by Japanese car curbs

From Michael Hornsby, Brussels, June 11

Japan is to follow up its pledge to cut back its rising car exports to West Germany with a similar promise to the three Benelux countries, Belgium, Luxembourg and The Netherlands.

'Disclosure of this agreement today has cut the ground from under the feet of the European Commission, which is seeking to negotiate controls on imports of Japanese cars through the EEC, similar to those recently agreed between Japan and the United States.'

The chief spokesman of the Commission said that Brussels had been 'extremely surprised' by the Japan-West Germany deal, and had not been informed of its contents. The Commission would make its views known in the next few days.

The spokesman recalled that the Commission had been entrusted by the EEC's Council of Ministers with the task of holding talks with Japan on car exports, and that member states themselves had stressed the 'Community character' of their approach to dealings with the Japanese.

Under the arrangements offered to the Benelux countries, the Japanese will reduce their car exports to Belgium from 112,000 units in 1980 to 104,000 units this year, a cut of 7 per cent. They will also hold back exports to the Netherlands and Luxembourg in 1981 to the same level as last year—122,000 units in all.

According to Japanese officials here, the deal will be formally concluded when Mr. Rokusuke Nishi, Japanese ambassador to Brussels, meets Mr. Willy Claes, Belgium's economics minister, next week in Paris at a meeting of the International Energy Agency.

Last year Japanese car exports to Belgium rose by 38 per cent, increasing their market share from 17.6 per cent to 24.3 per cent. This trend continued in the early months of this year, and there were fears that thousands of Japanese cars, originally destined for the American market would be diverted to Europe.

The same anxiety prevailed in West Germany, where Japanese cars increased their market share from 5.7 per cent to 16 per cent last year, and rose in volume terms by 30 per cent in the first five months of this year. Japan has now pledged to observe a maximum annual growth rate of 10 per cent.

The Japanese strategy, says Mr. Zeno Suzuki, Japan's Prime Minister, embarks on his first tour of European capitals—clearly to head off demands for tougher controls on Japanese exports by exploiting the declining interest in the EEC.

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AVON RUBBER COMPANY LIMITED

The result of the first half of the year was dominated by the cost of the major re-organisation referred to in the Chairman's Statement at the Annual General Meeting in February. The extraordinary items totalling £1,449,000 were made up by the disposal of Avon Medicals (£219,000); the disposal of Agricultural Engineering (£250,000); closure of the Swedish distribution company (£100,000) and reorganisation costs totalling £880,000.

The result shows a profit of £1,449,000 on sales of £14,449,000. In addition to these costs approximately one third of the first half trading loss of £1,449,000 arose in those businesses which have now been sold or closed.

The level of orders from the majority of our customers appears to have stabilised but as yet we see no evidence of any general recovery in the national economy. In our European markets the strength of sterling is still adversely affecting volume and profit margins.

Whilst the performance of all of our non tyre related companies has improved, the severity of competition in the international tyre market continues unabated and this will make profitable trading difficult to achieve in the second half.

In view of the first half results no interim dividend will be paid on the Ordinary shares. On the 500,000 4.9% Cumulative Preference shares the half year dividend will be paid at the rate of 2.45p per share, amounting to £12,250, on 30th June 1981, to shareholders on the register at 12 noon on 15th June 1981.

	Half year to 30th April 1981	Half year to 29th March 1980	Financial year ended 27th Sept 1980
Turnover	78,298,000	81,183,000	155,688,000
Operating Profit before depreciation	1,828,000	4,594,000	6,710,000
Share of Profits of associated companies	30,000	110,000	125,000
Depreciation	1,858,000	4,844,000	6,835,000
Operating Profit after depreciation	259,000	3,116,000	4,002,000
Financing charges	1,773,000	2,332,000	3,162,000
(Loss)/Profit before taxation	(1,514,000)	784,000	840,000
Taxation	—	235,000	341,000
(Loss)/Profit after taxation	(1,514,000)	549,000	499,000
Minority Interests	(22,000)	29,000	48,000
	(1,492,000)	520,000	451,000
Extraordinary Items	(1,449,000)	—	—
(Loss)/Profit attributable to Avon Shareholders	(2,941,000)	520,000	451,000
(Loss)/Earnings per share	(22.8p)	7.5p	6.4p

AVON Avon Rubber Company Limited, Melsbach, Wiltshire, SN12 8AA. Tel. (0226) 703101



Progress in Canadian oil dispute

Some progress was apparently made at a meeting between the Canadian and Alberta energy ministers held yesterday to deal with differences over oil pricing and other energy issues.

Mr. Marc Lalonde, the federal energy minister, and Mr. Merv Leitch, his Alberta provincial counterpart, announced, after a five-hour meeting in Banff, Alberta, that they intended to meet again in two weeks.

Neither would say exactly how much progress had been made, but Mr. Lalonde said: "We certainly didn't go backwards".

Yesterday's meeting was the second since Alberta began cutting its oil production in the spring in protest against federal oil pricing policies and new federal taxes on oil and natural gas.

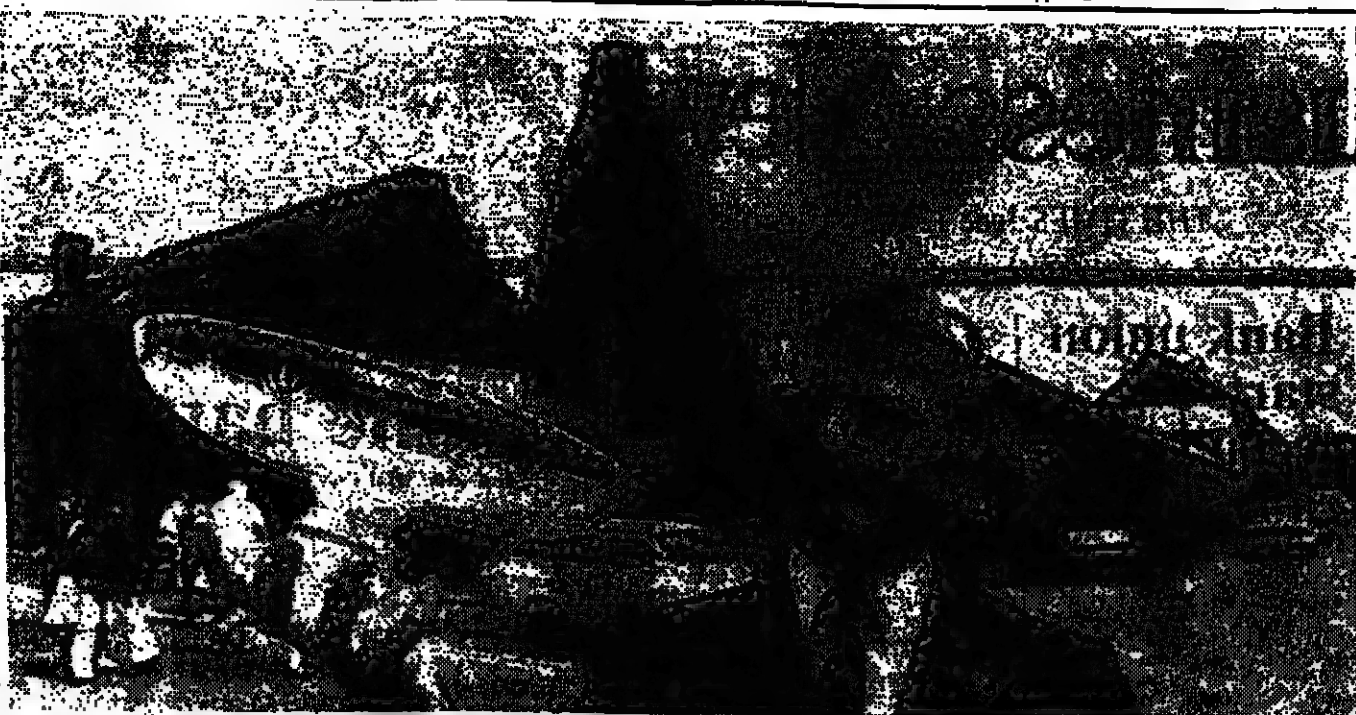
The western province, which accounts for about 90 per cent of Canada's oil output, has only 500,000 barrels a day, less than half the world price. The federal government, which controls oil prices in Canada, has been keeping them artificially low, to help industry.

Honda parts for US
The United States subsidiary of the Honda Motor Company plans to build a car parts supply centre in Windsor, Connecticut in 1983, which will employ up to 150 workers, officials in Tokyo said.

Swedish penalty rate
The Swedish Central Bank has cut the bank's penalty rate to 15 from 16 per cent effective today, a spokesman said.

Germans build less
Herr Thomas Rogge, chairman of the German Building Association, said that domestic building orders during the first quarter fell a real 19.2 per cent from 1980, road building orders fell 31.2 per cent and underground building orders 32.6 per cent.

Tobacco for China
China overtook South Africa as Zimbabwe's biggest export market in February, buying more than \$22m (£11m) worth of goods, most of it tobacco, a Tobacco Marketing Board official said in Salisbury.



Mr Ian Stuart, chairman of Stuart Crystal, outside the Redhouse Glass Cone

£100,000 glass museum appeal

By Clifford Webb, Midland Industrial Correspondent

The Red House Glass Cone, a Black Country landmark for more than 200 years, may be converted into a working museum for one of Britain's most famous craft industries, Stourbridge crystal glass making.

An appeal for £100,000 has been launched to restore the unique structure for public opening in two years' time. More than 100ft tall and 50ft wide at its base, it is the last survivor of a dozen or so similar brick-built cones which dominated the Stourbridge landscape until the 1930s.

Often likened to a giant beehive but with the top open to the elements, its shape was dictated by the need to produce intense heat from the coal-fired glassmaking furnace housed inside. Air was sucked in through tunnels and ejected with great

force through the 10ft opening in the roof. Working conditions for the glassmakers, grouped around the 12-pot furnace in teams or "chairs" as they are known locally, were appalling. In summer the heat was almost unbearable, and led to a tradition of heavy beer drinking similar to that found in steelmaking communities. In winter, snow and rain fell through the opening, mixed with soot from the walls, covering the workers with dirt.

The development of "superheat" furnaces fired by gas or electricity saw the gradual replacement of the cone by modern factories.

One after another they have fallen into decay, become hazards and have been demolished. Now the owners of the last Stourbridge cone, Stuart & Sons, have

launched the appeal to restore it as a working museum and visitors' centre. The West Midlands County Council and Dudley Metropolitan Council have promised help.

The move has sparked great interest in the Midlands. To test public reaction, Mr Ian Stuart, chairman, held two open days recently. More than 17,000 visitors swarmed on to the little canal-side site.

Yesterday he said: "It took us completely by surprise. But it was a wonderful surprise and gave us fresh heart to press ahead with an idea we have been developing for a long time. We are determined that this is one part of our heritage that will not go the way of so much of our industrial past, demolished and forgotten."

Britain could gain dominant share of \$1,000m market

Ferranti claims world lead with new chip

By Edward Townsend and Bill Johnston

Ferranti Electronics, the small but profitable high technology arm of the Ferranti group, announced this week a significant advance in silicon chip technology which could give Britain a dominant share of the world semiconductor market in the next 10 years.

But the question that is bound to be raised in government circles and among electronics industry observers is whether the technological lead claimed by Ferranti will remain a British success, or will it be overtaken by the American and Japanese.

Ferranti says that its new product is several years ahead of world competition, but it admits that its lead could be soon eroded by a concerted drive from American competitors.

The new device, a semi-customized silicon chip, has not

attracted the attention of the electronic component manufacturing industry on a large scale, but according to Ferranti it could have a \$1,000m market in the next decade.

The new microchip process, called "uncommitted logic arrays" (ulas), concentrates over 10,000 electronic components on a single piece of silicon. The final connections between the components are made by the customer to suit his individual needs.

The original technology has been used on a fairly large scale over the past 10 years, but has never been able to match the obvious commercial uses of the microprocessor. The last decade was dominated by this sort of microchip, but the 1980s could belong to chips such as those designed by Ferranti.

While the market leaders in electronic components appear

to have ignored the application of these devices to consumer products, Ferranti has concentrated upon selling its device to a wide variety of manufacturers and now claims 30 per cent share of the world market.

Designers of cameras, radios, knitting machines and conventional household electric drills have harnessed the compactness and versatility over the last decade of this new technology.

Ferranti's hope of remaining in the forefront of the market now depends on whether the company has the research and marketing resources to match the competition. Texas Instruments, one of the leading American producers, has committed itself to the technology, but has channelled its resources in providing the component for computers.

A recent survey by Mackintosh Consultants of Luton,

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Draft regulations on EEC trade marks Business names register

From Mr David O. Lewis

Sir, I would have expected Mr. Hunnington to "expect" rights in intellectual property rather than to espouse their destruction (June 5).

There are major aspects of the Community draft regulations, and draft directives on trade marks, that require attention. These were discussed at a recent conference sponsored by the Trade Marks, Patents and Designs Federation, attended by Mr Hunnington, and include the proposed appropriation of a mark for the same goods anywhere in the Community, the proposal that a proprietor must prove a serious likelihood of confusion between marks and the proposed inalienability of a registered Community Trade Mark against an interim injunction. All of these proposals must lead to confusion in the market place.

A trade mark represents goodwill built up with expense and effort only so long as it remains distinctive of the goods or services, of its proprietor. If a writer has insufficient command of the language to need to resort to using a trade mark generally to describe the goods or services then scholarship has come to a poor pass.

Your columns have of recent months weighed against piracy. If a trade mark loses its distinctiveness as a result of generic usage then an open invitation is given to pirates to infringe without fear of retribution. The risk is ever present and increases with the success of the mark — as only a vacuum flask and vacuum

cleaners will bring to mind. Linoleum and asphalt were, and in the latter case in some countries still are, valuable trade marks. They were destroyed in this country by becoming generic.

While Caterpillar, Photostat and Volvo are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom respectively, no action can be taken against compilers of dictionaries if the marks are used, for infringement to like trade in the goods must occur. Erosion of distinctiveness arises — but has no remedy.

Perhaps both scholars and shopkeepers could be satisfied by altering the drafts to instruct the courts to ignore such misuse in dictionaries and to hold that once a mark has been registered it can never subsequently become descriptive. Unfortunately, this solution would only have effect within the Community.

However, Mr Hunnington has little to fear. This is yet another example of the pitfalls in legislation which await those who have never actually owned a trade mark. It is all bark and no bite. Neither draft makes any provision for a sanction against the publisher who does not comply with a request for acknowledgement.

Yours faithfully,

DAVID O. LEWIS,

Chairman, Trade Marks Committee, Trade Marks, Patents & Designs Federation, Centre Point, 103 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DW.

From Mr P. S. Taylor

Sir, Robin Young ("Making life harder for cheaters", June 8) in common with others, including the Opposition spokesman in the House of Commons, says that the Confederation of British Industry supports the Government's proposal to abolish the Register of Business Names. This is not so. We do not object to the abolition of the register as such, and we think that the Government's substitute proposals will secure the original objects of the register — identifying those behind a business name — at least as effectively.

We have, however, pointed out that the register has fulfilled a secondary and unintended, but nonetheless valuable, function of providing a list of business names in use. This list has enabled seekers after new names to avoid causing confusion, and it has provided some protection for existing names. We consider that alternative methods should be found for fulfilling this secondary function of protecting business names.

Amending trade mark law to enable service marks to be registered is one reform which we have long sought and provision of some form of voluntary register of business names is another suggestion which our Smaller Firms Council has long favoured.

Yours faithfully,

PHILIP TAYLOR, Company Affairs Director, Confederation of British Industry, 103 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DU.

Separate roles of design and marketing

From the President of the Society of Industrial Artists and Designers

Sir, When I wrote my letter (June 1) suggesting that the textile industry fight United States competition with more effective products, my main point was that management has failed to realize the full potential of creative design. The significant difference being that generally in the United Kingdom thinking is overworked and production oriented, while our competitors' thinking is outward and fashion oriented, in the broadest sense.

Now while I am pleased to have the support of the Director General of the Institute of Marketing in my attempt to point the textile industry in the right direction, he nevertheless places me in something of a dilemma. My problem is that while I would agree that

marketing is a prime ingredient for commercial success, many of our current problems to my own personal experience, are the result of too much, not too little marketing. Far better no marketing at all than the wrong kind, which is what, unfortunately the fashion, textile, wallcoverings, etc., industries have been getting.

The problem is that marketing tends to be science while styling and design direction is an art. The marketing man with his "market share" and his "town hall testing" all relevant practices at Cadbury's and Beecham's, fails miserably to understand personality, feeling, trends and the relevance of fine art and music to consumer products. "If you can't quantify it, you can't put a value on it," marketing can't use it.

It is true that there are many companies who are unaware of

marketing but the giants ICI, Reed, Courtaulds have spent fortunes on marketing and where has it got them? After all, when the British textile industry was at its biggest and strongest, marketing had hardly been invented. Marketing works for branded goods, but wherever the product has a "personality" that is, colour, design, styling, fine branding has a lesser importance. Obviously we all need to work together; let's hope we can. When we do let's have a little more art and understanding and a little less science.

Yours faithfully,

EDWARD POND,

President, Society of Industrial Artists and Designers, Nash House, 12 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH, June 8.

Licensed dealers in securities

From the Chairman of The Association of Licensed Dealers in Securities

Sir, Your article on the regulations covering licensed dealers in securities (June 1) covers some pertinent comments on the present unsatisfactory situation. An association has been pressing the Government for some time to find space in the legislative programme to update the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act (1938). This, as you rightly point out, is primarily a product of pre-war thinking and has largely been rendered both

ineffective and inappropriate by the passage of time.

The key changes in regulations which can only come from a new Act are:

- (1) The definition and regulation of the new profession of "investment manager";
- (2) A thorough reform of the licensing procedures both at the stage of the initial application and at subsequent renewals;
- (3) A distinction in legislation between those who seek to act as agent and those who seek to act as principal.

The response of the Government so far can only be described as lukewarm. It will be a tragedy if further cases like those recent weeks have to occur before the authorities can be persuaded to act.

Yours sincerely,

ROBIN HODGSON,

Chairman, The Association of Licensed Dealers in Securities, 27-28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB, June 3.

Some exporters think Bank of America only handles U.S.-based trade



So how did we help Land Rovers get to Kenya?

In 1981, Land Rovers are helping Kenya's agriculture develop. BL are shipping Land Rover kits to CMC Holdings Ltd in Kenya, and winning new export sales in this huge market. £14 million of orders are involved, largely financed by Bank of America in London. Our ECDD team played a vital role.

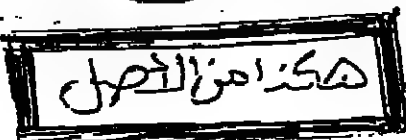
For other British exporters, we have set up complex transactions with our Trade Finance officers and Letter of Credit department, involving complete financial packages. We have arranged documentary collections in many countries. Wherever we have a local presence, we use it to save time and speed cash flow for our customers. We have also helped with every aspect of foreign exchange — from consultancy to contracts.

For trade finance, contact Michael Hall, Bank of America, 25 Cannon Street, London EC4A 4HN. Tel: 01-236 2010.

For every transaction, we have the resources and the presence necessary to deliver — from London. And so we should have. This year we celebrate 50 years in the City. We are also represented in Birmingham, Manchester and Edinburgh, with individual account officers to service your company's specific needs. They are backed by a team of specialists dedicated to delivering quality service on time. We are confident that this is the way to help British companies succeed in export markets.

Next time you think of trade finance, think of us. And our team.

BANK OF AMERICA
Think what we can do for you.



Hill Samuel Group

Sir Robert Clark makes the following points in his Chairman's Statement:

* Group profits after tax but before exchange differences and extraordinary items amounted to £11,293,000 compared with £7,688,000 in 1979/80.

* Disclosed earnings per share rose to 17.37p compared with 11.94p last year — an increase of 45 per cent.

* A final dividend of 4.8p per share net has been proposed by the Board which, with the interim dividend of 2.2p per share net, will make total dividends for the year of 7.0p per share net compared with 5.852p last year.

* Disclosed banking profits of the merchant bank increased by 54 per cent following a rise of 51 per cent in 1979/80.

* Insurance broking continued to incur losses, although an increase in brokerage income was achieved.

* Other divisions performed satisfactorily, particularly shipping services where profits increased by 67 per cent.

* It was a reasonably good year with many of our expectations realised but with scope for further substantial improvement in future years.

Profit after taxation

Year to 31st March	1981	1980
	£000	£000
Merchant banking		
Banking	10,605	6,897
Investment profits	218	(94)
	10,823	6,803
Life assurance and investment management	1,158	1,182
Employee benefit services	1,604	1,964
Insurance broking	(1,401)	(1,551)
Shipping and other services	1,153	1,166
	13,337	9,564
Less: Central costs including interest	2,044	1,876
Profit before exchange differences and extraordinary items	11,293	7,688
Exchange differences	(475)	(1,753)
Extraordinary items	1,552	(969)
Total	12,370	4,966

* after minority interest and transfer to reserve for contingencies.

Copies of the Report and Accounts containing the Chairman's Statement in full can be obtained from the Secretary.

Hill Samuel Group Limited
100 Wood Street
London EC2P 2AJ



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Hill Samuel shakes off the past

Hill Samuel seems to have finally laid to rest the staid image of the past. After years of minimal profits, growth and virtually static earnings, after tax profits have this time leaped from £7.69m to £11.3m and earnings per share are up by 45 per cent to 17.4p in the year to March 31.

Significantly, this has been achieved without any help from the loss-making insurance broking side which did even worse. Rather the traditional merchant banking side has supplied the growth with profits up by 54 per cent to £10.6m after transfer to inner reserves, reflecting a good all-round performance and in particular the greater emphasis now placed on fee-earning activities. With its strong corporate client list, domestic advisory and underwriting fees were a record last year and the international side was only hampered by the tight competition in the Eurobond market. Otherwise overseas operations did better and money market activities very well, while commercial lending has seen some increase in volume although at very narrow margins.



Sir Robert Clark, chairman of Hill Samuel.

In contrast, Brown Shipley without either such broad international coverage or client base, reported a profit down from £1.8m to £1.5m yesterday, despite an improvement from insurance broking.

Encouraging trends in most of Hill Samuel's other non-banking activities have been largely dispelled by non-recurring factors. Life and investment management for instance would have shown an improvement but for a non-recurring tax charge while employee benefit services had to bear the cost of opening the New York office and spending on computers. In fact, the only disappointment was insurance broking where pretax losses rose from £3.2m to £3.4m despite higher brokerage income.

However, this year should see improvement although not profit from Hill Samuel's insurance broking contributing to a steady rise in profit and given the new-found sense of direction at the group, the above-average 6.6 per cent yield at 151p after last year's one-fifth dividend increase—should draw in line with the sector average.

Staveley Industries Checks and balances

Tracking the progress of Staveley, the engineering and minerals conglomerate, is not easy, for all the placidity of a turnover down 6.5 per cent to £164.3m and profits unchanged at £7.3m pretax in the year to last February. In the first half-year, profits more than doubled, but this nearly reflected a battering the year before from sour Middle Eastern contracts; stated profits are complicated by the accounting treatment for streamlining; and in the past year no fewer than five divisions were closed and two sold, leading to a £1.1m attributable loss.

Once again, Staveley came through thanks to its knack of checking and balancing. In turnover terms, electrical and mechanical services again constituted the most important part of the business, accounting for £37.6m but its slightly higher profits were dwarfed by mineral products, chiefly salt. Foundries again lost money, machine tools and engineering commendably reported nearly £810,000 against £1m, and Salter, the weighing machine hope, scraped by with £16,000.

This year Staveley will go on juggling, but this time it does so without a long order book. The group is living from hand to mouth and can only say that recession is

growing no worse. However, both the £1.5m redundancy provision and the £5.5m written off "below the line" should cut operating costs, gearing has now dropped to 12.5 per cent, and profits would have to dive to uncover the maintained gross dividend of 18.6p a share. The shares rose 4p to 242p yesterday, where the yield is 7.6 per cent. Group emphasis is changing from heavy engineering to higher added value lines, but there is still plenty of recovery potential.

● Confronted by apparently contradictory pressures, commodity markets have been searching for some weeks for a clue to their price behaviour. The emerging conclusion is that the underlying trend is weak. Leaving aside the cocoa price, pushed into the doldrums by the Ivory Coast's persistent selling, most prices are falling or at best drifting without definite objectives.

High American interest rates are an important factor. While commodities, like currencies, respond adversely to high interest rates, the normal currency effect is for a stronger dollar to raise sterling commodity prices. Generally low volumes suggest that speculative attention has shifted away from commodities, so that despite the currency influence even sterling values are pointing downwards.

This influence is superimposed on metals suffering from poor industrial demand and tropical commodities which are widely thought to be—or to be soon—in oversupply. Industrial metals are particularly affected by the American economy, and regardless of how interest rates are moving commodity markets are saying that they have yet to be convinced that the Reagan Administration will revive the world's biggest market. At the same time coffee and cocoa, the two main tropical foodstuffs, and the ones most traded in London, are promising big crops. The prospect of an effective new cocoa agreement is receding, and the International Coffee Organization is fighting to peg prices.

Even precious metals are not immune from this doleful combination. Gold scarcity, related to events in the Middle East, and silver, still in large part an industrial material, is suffering from the depression in base metals. If we are in an era of high and perhaps competitive interest rates the outlook for commodity prices cannot be good. But even with lower rates, the markets will have to be convinced that the world economy is turning up before they react positively.

600 Group Switching the emphasis

600 Group's efforts to counter the recession at home with major cutbacks and an increased export campaign have not prevented profits tumbling by almost £5m to £4.8m. But at least the group has been able to exploit a strong balance sheet to switch its emphasis away from potential disaster areas on the steel side and towards those areas like machine tools and process control equipment where optimism still prevails.

Steel operations in fact plunged £3.7m into losses of £2.6m during a year in which the group shutdown seven scrap depots. But the machine tool operations escaped with a profits fall of only £1.5m to £5.6m although most of the support came from strong overseas performances particularly in South Africa.

An extraordinary item of £1.1m covers the net costs of rationalization moves which have included two plant closures although redundancy costs have borne heavily on the pretax result. But at the same time 600 has used the recession to make some interesting acquisitions including Statrite Engineering and a 17 per cent stake in F. Pratt Engineering. Given the current bleak outlook in all sectors of engineering even the introduction of these new ventures will not produce a significant profits recovery this year.

A maintained dividend was sufficient yesterday to encourage the market to look further ahead and the shares added 2 1/2p to 7 1/2p where the yield is 10.6 per cent and p/e over 16 on a fully-taxed basis. This rating should be underpinned by longer term prospects and an asset value of around 130p but offers little scope in the short-term.

Henry VIII, who granted Trinity House its Royal Charter in 1534, would have admired the subtlety and resource with which the body and its allies the pilots have defended their interest against potential marauders in recent years.

Yet, in defending their interest, Trinity House, Britain's leading pilotage authority, with about half the 80 pilot stations around the coast, and the 1,500 self-employed pilots who actually provide the service, have greatly annoyed their customers, the ship owners, that cannot be good for either party.

Ship owners are fiercely resentful of new bylaws proposed by Trinity House for the London Pilotage District which would extend compulsory pilotage to large numbers of small ships that have managed without it. They say a sum of £600 or more a time—a sum so exorbitantly high, they say, as to dry up some trades altogether and drive ship owners out of business.

The true source of their resentment lies, however, not so much in the size of the proposed change, but the lack of apparent justification for it. Such comparisons as have been made in the past suggest little difference between the safety record of piloted and unpiloted ships.

It is not to dispute the value of specially skilled pilots to bring ships through specially difficult waters—a value recognized since time immemorial and acknowledged by ship owners, who have gladly paid to use them where appropriate. But the question of what is appropriate has not been satisfactorily settled, as the present dispute shows, despite prolonged investigation over the past decade.

The reason why it has not been satisfactorily settled seems from the outside to be abundantly clear: because two considerations between which there is no necessary connexion—navigation and pilotage remuneration—have been inextricably intertwined.

Rightly or wrongly, ship owners are now convinced that changes are more likely to come from the outside than from Trinity House and the pilots than to improve safety.

Those interests are substantial. Though there are only 1,500 pilots, the cost of pilotage to shipping in Britain each year is £20m-£40m. Of this, about two thirds goes to the pilots. All the pilots are in private business, sharing work and earnings through co-operatives at



In rough seas proposals to extend compulsory pilotage have run into fierce opposition

Why ship owners are taking on the pilots

each pilot station. In many cases, they also own the boats through companies in which they are shareholders.

Pilotage provides Trinity House with £15m of its total revenue of £35m-£40m each year. Loss of its pilotage role would be a serious matter to the United Kingdom Pilots' Association for 14 years before becoming Prime Minister of the Government that passed the 1979 Act had acted even earlier to manipulate the process of official inquiry to their own advantage.

The terms of reference of SCOP were "to consider... improvements in safety and efficiency of pilotage...". But in reporting to Mr Peter Shore, as Secretary of State for Trade, the committee brightly informed him that "our aims throughout have been safety, efficiency, and fair treatment for those engaged in the pilotage service".

It could be argued that the second of these reports became a warning shot, but Trinity House had successfully undermined one of the main recommendations of the first: that a new Central Pilotage Board should be set up with overall control of pilotage throughout the country and Trinity House largely phased out.

In the advisory committee's report the board became a commission (the Pilotage Commission), subsequently set up under the 1979 Act with little more than an advisory role; and Trinity House remained very much there, though with a

devoted management of its local pilotage districts of which London, stretching from Harwich to Folkestone, is by far the biggest and most important.

It could be argued, too, that the pilots, also not without friends in high places (Mr James Callaghan was president of the United Kingdom Pilots' Association for 14 years before becoming Prime Minister of the Government that passed the 1979 Act) had acted even earlier to manipulate the process of official inquiry to their own advantage.

There is a certain rough justice in the present system, on grounds not so much that small ships are less dangerous (though that is an argument or why stop at 50 tons? why not require pilots on pleasure yachts?) as that coasters in the nature of their business are constantly around the coast and, in and out of port, and their crew might be expected to be skilled and experienced in that activity.

Small ship masters pilot their vessels in and out of port 15 to 20 times a month, according to recent evidence to the Pilotage Commission, compared with four times by a big deep-sea ship (and then probably pilot-assisted). Patterns of trade and business have been built up over a long period under the present system, which could be

severely damaged by abrupt change. The recurrence of these ships set out in the "new" proposals to obtain exemption certificates for their masters—is highly suspect among ship owners, not only because of the enormous time and administrative effort involved, but because, under a clause of the 1979 Act regarded by ship owners as iniquitous, pilots have the right to object to the issue of certificates if their jobs or income are threatened—a licence for pilots to print money—is how ship owners bitterly describe it.

The task of sorting out these problems belongs to the Pilotage Commission, one of its advisers and Mr John Bliffen, the Secretary for Trade, who decides. It is not an enviable task.

Had the study been of safe navigation rather than pilotage, it might have recognized that with advancing technology new ways are emerging of guiding and controlling coastal ship movements. Sending out a man and putting him on a ship is only one way—and a costly and cumbersome one—of making coastal navigation safer.

The logical people to offer means of safe guidance in and out of port are the port authorities, compulsorily where appropriate. This is what is done in Rotterdam, one of the world's largest ports. SCOP visited, where pilotage is provided by salaried staff of the port paid for by dues on all ships, not just those using it. And this is what is being done in Britain's new oil ports north of Scotland, where pilots are port staff with other responsibilities for ship control and safety.

Such a course was considered by SCOP, but apparently rejected on objections from pilots. If it were to happen, would it regret the passing of the independent pilot with his ancient lineage and fine tradition, his sturdy independence and dogged determination to survive. There must more-over be sympathy for the pilot as declining traffic and growing freedom for EEC masters visiting Britain eat into his business.

But survival must depend on a willingness to adapt and to bow self-interest to the wider good. It certainly should not, and cannot, depend on feigning necessity, service on ship owners and, in the process, driving them out of business, too.

More uncertain matter because it depends on factors like the choice between the Ariane launch vehicle of the European Space Agency and America's reusable Space Shuttle. It might even be possible to arrange for a cheaper launching with one of the older American Delta rockets.

The company formed by the venture, Satellite Broadcasting Company (SBC), will lease out channels approved by the Government. An application for permission to operate and transmit from satellites over Britain has been made to the Home Office.

Yet there are still uncertainties about costs. Estimates made for the Government assumed that one of two satellites under development by the European Space Agency would form the basis for any design. The first is the European Communications Satellite, ECS, and the other is called L-Sat (Large Satellite). The cost for development and launch of an ECS-type would be about £27m to £35m and for an L-Sat between £40m and £60m. The ECS version would provide only a two-channel service for direct broadcasting over Britain and the L-Sat five channels.

A single Ariane model 3 rocket could launch two ECS class satellites or one L-Sat, but firm quotations about launch costs are not yet available. Similarly, it is difficult to be sure about the price of launches by the shuttle towards the end of the 1980s when the vehicles will be needed.

Overall costs, allowing for operating and the timetable for a replacement, are calculated, at the rate used by the Treasury to evaluate public investments, at £14m to £16m a year for an ECS two-channel satellite and £10m to £11m a year for the L-Sat five-channel scheme.

British Aerospace is more in favour of the L-Sat because its extra capacity could allow a service to be provided to such countries as Iceland, Ireland, Spain and Portugal. These countries share the 31 degree west orbital position with Britain.

Pearce Wright

Technology

Television's new space race

The WE-SARC blueprint came into effect on January 1, 1979, and will, until December 31, 1982, be the basis of the new satellite organization, which carries programmes for the BBC and ITV and telephone and computer data for British Telecoms—and the future broadcasting design. It is the power of the transmitters and the frequencies on which the new ones will operate.

The world plan has allocated a space in the communications band between 11.7 GHz (one gigahertz equals one thousand million cycles a second) and 12.5 GHz for the whole of Europe.

In effect, this gives 40 television channels (or some other combination which might include sound tracks in stereo or in different languages, or perhaps 15 to 20 radio links) to be shared among all the countries.

The maximum power that can be transmitted from each spacecraft is also laid down, as is the size and shape of the beam. So the satellite floods the area with a beam like that of a giant torch. The strength of the signal decreases gradually from the centre to the edge of the "footprint".

Although no country has experience of operational direct broadcasting service, a number of countries—including France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, the Nordic countries, Japan and Australia—are planning projects.

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Pearce Wright

Business Diary: Dumbo takes off • Sparks fly at CEBG

Luxembourg city is not normally regarded as a big European liveliest capital. But yesterday there were two circuses in town.

One was decked out with a traditional Big Top in a dusty square just across the road from the city theatre. The second was taking place a few hundred yards away across a ravine in the EEC headquarters.

The EEC event was the "Jumbo". Council of Ministers meeting, at which the EEC's economic, finance and labour ministers gathered to mull over the problem of unemployment.

Rarely has a meeting been awaited with such anticipation in so many national capitals. The Jumbo was originally thought up by the Dutch, who have been holding the presidency of the Community for the first six months of this year, and for a long time was practically cold-shouldered by the other member states.

But, in the event, yesterday's meeting turned out to be better than most participants had expected. With only 21 ministers there, compared with the widely canvassed 30 to 40, it was less of a bureaucratic jungle than had been feared.

The French delegation, still in the first flush of election victory, actually came up with some new ideas on how community policies should operate.

Wallchart

I SEE THAT THE INSTITUTE OF PURCHASING AND SUPPLY HAS PUBLISHED A LIST OF COMPANIES WHO OFFER INCENTIVES...

● A stand-up row has flared between Glyn England, the chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, and SDF luminary Michael Barnes, chairman of the Electricity Consumers' Council, over the recent report on the industry by the Monopolies Commission.

The report attacked the board's method of assessing investment in new power stations, concluding that it was against the public interest. England was evidently incensed by the press statement put out by the consumer body, which claimed that faulty investment decisions had cost consumers millions of pounds in higher prices and pointed out that electricity prices had risen five times in the past two years—by 70 per cent overall.

At a special meeting two weeks ago the consumer council insisted on brushing aside the prepared agenda and proceeded to lambast the assembled company on the offending press release, line by line. He apparently contrasted the poor relations the board

IT'LL BE INTERESTING TO SEE WHETHER THE INSTITUTE OF SALES MANAGEMENT PUBLISHES A LIST OF BUYERS WHO ACCEPT THEM...

● Who should be in town next week but the creator of many an electrical storm in United States policy-making, the former national security adviser to President Carter, Zbigniew Brzezinski.

"Zbig" like Henry Kissinger before him, is busy producing his apology at the Georgetown University Centre for Strategic Studies in Washington. He is in London, however, as financial adviser to the United States stockbrokers and investment bankers Dean, Witter, Reynolds, and is to be their guest of honour at a Savoy lunch on Wednesday.

DWR probably need a security adviser rather more than a financial one at the moment. They, or rather their clients in American electricity generation, are feeling a little insecure after a recent Economist article headlined: "The Lights are going out for America's utilities."

On Friday DWR will produce six presidents of United States utilities at the Savoy to dispute the magazine's contention.



WESTON SMITH Chairman of the Board of Directors

Morgan

Results for the First Quarter 1981 (unaudited)

	1981 1st Quarter £000's	1980 1st Quarter £000's
Sales to Third Parties	29,127	32,463
Trading Profit	1,341	4,083
Profit Before Taxation	519	3,275
Profit Before Tax per Share	0.9p	7.5p
Earnings per 25p Ordinary Share	0.4p	4.8p
Trading Margin	4.6%	12.6%

The Chairman's comments:

In April we reported a slight improvement in orders for our United Kingdom factories. This trend has continued and we join the ranks of those who believe that the United Kingdom recession has passed its lowest point.

It is not yet possible to discern the prospects for the year but quarterly profit figures should progressively improve. A wary eye must be kept on the markets of Continental and Eastern Europe but so far our overseas companies are faring well.

Copies of the Annual Report for 1980 may be obtained from the Secretary of the Company.

The Morgan Crucible Company Limited

98 PETTY FRANCE, LONDON SW1H 9EG

Ross Davies

FINANCIAL NEWS

Valor optimistic despite 40% fall

By Margaret Pagano

Pretax profits at Valor, Britain's only independent gas appliance maker, were hit last year by high interest charges and redundancy costs.

They fell 40 per cent to £1.5m in the year to March 1981. Sales were also depressed at £48.7m, a drop of £1.6m. But trading profits held up well at £4.28m compared with £4.49m. Shareholders get an unchanged final dividend of 2½p gross, making the total 3.8p gross for the year.

Mr Michael Montague, chairman, said yesterday that the group was extremely pleased with results considering that demand from the public had virtually dried up for a couple of months. Lower profits, he said, were due to the high interest charges incurred in financing massive stocks which were not sold. This will not be repeated.

At one time group borrowings reached £5m causing interest charges to rise from £783,000 last time to £1.28m. Borrowings were new under control, he added, and at the year end cash balances were £3.5m compared with £2m.

Most of Valor's plants were on short-time during the year and 500 employees were made redundant, leaving the United Kingdom workforce at about 2,000. This cost £250,000 which was taken above the line. All factories, except one, are back to a five-day week.

Mr Montague is optimistic for the present year: "I see no recovery in the economy yet but



Mr Michael Montague, chairman of Valor.

Earnings from Valor's entry into the energy field are not expected this year. Its 30 per cent interest in ten gas wells from the drilling programme in the United States should show results in November to December. Valor also applied for a block in the English Channel with Union Oil.

Flurry of activity at property developer

The Property and Reversionary Investment Corporation is developing, once more.

The Drapery, Northampton, comprises three shops, being let to a fast-food chain. In Sutton, Surrey, a new building is due for completion by the end of the year and planning consent has been won for offices at Rayners Lane, Harrow. Approval has been granted for an office development in Borough High Street, and Great Dover Street, SE1, and approval in principle has been received for a factory in Farnborough. The Rayon Garden premises are being turned into industrial nursery units.

Detailed planning consent has also been granted for the development of the important 17-acre industrial estate at Frimley, Surrey, close to the M3 motorway. The group has 51 per cent of the developing company.

The accounts show a 15 per cent increase in net asset value to 235p a share at last March. Of the investment properties, 82 per cent are in Central London and 80 per cent are freehold. Offices accounted for nearly £26m, and shops £12.6m.

Kennure Oil Exploration is to raise about £356,000 (Irish) by a rights issue of 1.42m new ordinary shares at 25p (Irish) each on one-for-five basis. Issue underwritten by Cluff Oll brokers, Dagenham and Pamure Gordon.



No sign of upturn at P and O

Lord Inchcape (pictured), chairman of P and O, had gloomy news for the shipping group's shareholders at the annual meeting in London yesterday. He said that since writing his statement conditions had, if anything, deteriorated. Continuing disruption of traffic at Southampton was particularly affecting Overseas Containers Lines and markedly weaker oil prices were hitting P and O Flaco in the United States.

First-half results would therefore be worse than those of 1980, he said. But he added that he saw no reason to change his previous statement that profits for the full year at the post-tax level should be broadly maintained. He also made it clear that the major remaining con-

straint to further investment was that profits were still not high enough to enable the group to replace the assets in all of the existing businesses without increasing borrowings.

"The decision still facing your board is not so much where to expand but which of our assets we should intend to maintain and which we shall have to run down or sell," he said, citing the Liverpool-Belfast ferry as one possible closure.

He also explained that the directors now had considerable doubts about the extent to which the group should stay in shipping. "We will certainly remain in some areas of shipping, and I expect we will have more of our assets invested in shipping for the foreseeable future than in any one of our other businesses," he said.

Schering expects slower growth

Schering AG, the West German chemical and pharmaceutical group, sees a further improvement in earnings this year, but said it does not expect the 1981 growth in consolidated net profit to keep pace with the 33 per cent earnings rise to Dm73m (£15.5m) in 1980. However, first-quarter turnover gains point to an altogether positive year.

Group sales in 1981 are expected to reach Dm3,900m, up 18 per cent from Dm3,220m last year. Consolidated sales in the first quarter of the current year rose 16 per cent to Dm1,300m against the same 1980 period.

Schering's world group profits climbed to Dm77.7m last year.

International

from Dm57.7m in 1980. The profit of Asche AG, pharmaceutical distributors formerly held by Schering subsidiary Currys GmbH and fully acquired by Schering in early 1980, was directly included in the group's profit for the first

time and had inflated earnings figures of the group. However, the inclusion of the Asche AG profit was a "one-time occurrence" that would not be repeated.

From 1980 net earnings, Dm20m were allocated to reserves, up from Dm10m in 1979. Schering had announced previously that it is offering stockholders an unchanged dividend of Dm9 per share.

Montedison-Sogam

Private Italian groups, seeking the takeover of a 17 per cent stake in Montedison from public companies, reportedly agreed to pay 235 lire a share for the parcel held by Sogam, reliable sources reported in Milan.

CGE up 20 pc

Cie Generale d'Electricite (CGE), a leading French electrical and electronics group over which hangs the threat of nationalization, reports that its 1980 consolidated accounts show a 20 per cent increase in net income to 560m francs (about £50m). The share of net earnings accruing to the group rose by 28 per cent to 407m francs.

Creusot-Loire loss

Creusot-Loire, a French heavy engineering and steel producing group, incurred a consolidated loss of 105.8m francs (£9.5m) last year, sharply down from the losses of 253.6m francs in 1979 and 359.1m francs in 1978. While the 1980 result indicates a marked improvement, it still falls short of Creusot-Loire's hopes of breaking even.

Gold mine reopens

Gold mining is to start up again in Simmer and Jack's acreage around Germiston on South Africa's Kimberley Reef.

The mine stopped production in 1964 but there are roughly 23m tons of surface deposits and slimes in the acreage which could yield an average of 0.68 grams of gold per ton. When gold is above \$465 an ounce, its extraction from these deposits becomes worthwhile. Gold was fixed at \$464.5 in London yesterday.

Though Simmer and Jack owns the Germiston acreage, the rights to exploit the surface and underground resources to 1,174 metre deep of the Kimberley Reef are owned by Garbin Holdings. Since Garbin is

beneficially owned by Anglo American Corporation (AAC) and its associates, including Anglo American Gold, a deal has been worked out with AAC and AngloGold after an approach to AAC from the Simmer and Jack board earlier this year. Complete ownership of Garbin will be transferred from AAC, AngloGold and others to East Rand Gold and Uranium (Ergo) in exchange for a million shares, worth roughly £880,000 (about £425,000). Ergo is 11.65 per cent owned by AngloGold.

Garbin's previous owners will then lead it the full amount of its after-tax spending on the project with Simmer and Jack, which will cost about £55m.

ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF ORDINARY SHARE WARRANTS TO BEARER PAYMENT OF COUPON NO 95

With reference to the notice of declaration of dividend advertised in the press on 3rd June, 1981, the following information is published for the guidance of holders of share warrants to bearer. The dividend of 75 cents per share was declared in South African currency. South African non-resident shareholders' tax at 9.2823 cents per share will be deducted from the dividend payable in respect of all share warrant coupons leaving a net dividend of 65.71208 cents per share.

The dividend on bearer shares will be paid on or after 24th July, 1981, against surrender of coupon No 95 detached from share warrants to bearer as under:

(a) At the offices of the following continental paying agents:

Credit du Nord,
6-8 Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris 8e.
Banque Bruxelles Lambert,
2 Rue de la Regence,
1000 Brussels.
Societe Generale de Banque,
2 Montagne du Parc,
1000 Brussels.
Swiss Bank Corporation,
1 Aeschenvorstadt,
Basle 4002.
Banque Internationale a Luxembourg SA,
2 Boulevard Royal,
Luxembourg.
Union Bank of Switzerland,
Bahnhofstrasse 45,
Zurich.

Payments in respect of coupons lodged at the office of a continental paying agent will be made in South African currency to an authorised dealer in exchange in the Republic of South Africa nominated by the continental paying agent. Instructions regarding disposal of the proceeds of the payment so made can only be given to such authorised dealer by the continental paying agent concerned.

(b) At the London Bearer Reception Office of Charter Consolidated Limited, 40 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1AJ. Unless persons depositing coupons at such office request payment in rand to an address in the Republic of South Africa, payment will be made in United Kingdom currency either:

(i) in respect of coupons lodged prior to 16th July, 1981, at the United Kingdom currency equivalent of the rand currency value of their dividend on 14th July, 1981 or;

(ii) in respect of coupons lodged during the period 16th July, 1981 to 15th July, 1982 both days inclusive at the United Kingdom currency equivalent of the rand currency value of their dividend on 20th July, 1981 or;

(iii) in respect of coupons lodged on or after 16th July, 1981 at the prevailing rate of exchange on the day the proceeds are remitted, through an authorised dealer in exchange in Johannesburg to the London Bearer Reception Office.

Coupons must be left for at least four clear days for examination and may be presented any weekday (Saturday excepted) between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 3 p.m. Instead of the United Kingdom income tax will be deducted from payments to any person in the United Kingdom in respect of coupons deposited at the London Bearer Reception Office, unless such coupons are accompanied by Inland Revenue non-residence declaration forms. Where such declaration is made, the net amount of the dividend will be the United Kingdom currency equivalent of 72.50 cents per share in terms of sub-paragraph (b) above arrived at as follows:

	South African Currency Cents Per Share
Amount of dividend declared	75.00000
Less: South African non-resident shareholders' tax at 12.3839%	9.28792
	65.71208
Less: U.K. income tax at 17.6161% on the gross amount of the dividend of 75 cents	13.21208
	52.50000

For and on behalf of
ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION
OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED
J. C. Green-Smith
London Office:
40 Holborn Viaduct,
EC1P 1AJ,
11th June, 1981

Note: The Company has been requested by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to state:
Under the double tax agreement between the United Kingdom and the Republic of South Africa, the South African non-resident shareholders' tax applicable to the dividend is allowable as a credit against the United Kingdom tax payable in respect of the dividend. The deduction of tax at the reduced rate of 17.6161% instead of the basic rate of 30% represents an allowance of credit at the rate of 12.3839%.



Growth rating 1966-1981

	%
1. Racal	+5569
2. Ladbroke	+3592
3. Ultramar	+3588
4. Electronic Rentals	+3579
5. [REDACTED]	+3281
6. Trafalgar House	+2921
7. Electrocomponents	+2854
8. BTR	+2111
9. Tricentrol	+1762
10. De La Rue	+1269
11. GEC	+1181
12. Northern Foods	+1105

Research by Extel Statistical Services

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